



CENSUS OF INDIA 1971

A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION
(Manipur)

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF CENSUS
OPERATIONS, MANIPUR**

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Chapter I

INTRODUCTORY

It is for the first time in the history of Indian census that a popular version of the census report called "A portrait of population" is being brought out as a part of the 1971 census reporting programme. This volume tries to present to the lay reader the basic demographic features as revealed by the 1971 census.

The term 'population census' means an official enumeration of all the people in a country or any of its sub-divisions at a given point of time. The word 'census' is derived from the Latin word 'censere', meaning 'to assess' or 'to rate'. Population census is defined by the United Nations as "the total process of collecting, compiling and publishing demographic, economic and social data pertaining at a specified time or times to all persons in a country or delimited territory". The first complete census of population on a uniform basis throughout India was conducted in 1881. Manipur state was covered in this 1881 census. Owing to outbreak of war against the British, there was no census in Manipur in 1891. Manipur had become a part of British India by 1901 and from then on there has been a regular census.

The utility of a population census is mostly felt in the following spheres.

(i) *Administration and policy* : The population census is the primary source of basic national population data required for administrative purposes. Delimitation of constituencies both for the Lok Sabha and the state legislatures are made on the basis of the latest census figures. The reservation of seats for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population are determined on the basis of data collected at the census. Employment policies, manpower programmes, migration, housing, education, public health, social welfare and many other aspects of economic

and social planning need accurate information about the characteristics of our population that are collected during a census.

(ii) *Research*: The composition, distribution and growth of population, the changing patterns of rural-urban concentration, the development of urbanised areas, the geographical distribution of population according to occupation and education, sex and age, and other social and economic characteristics of population are of great interest for the researcher. Businessmen and industrialists also need these data for their use.

(iii) *Other uses*: Frames for sample surveys, projections for regional and sectoral planning, civil registration, fertility and vital statistics are other areas where census information finds wide use.

How census is organised

The population census, one of the most extensive and complicated statistical operations, needs careful planning. The preparatory work includes enactment or modification of census legislation, creation of administrative organisation, demarcation of administrative units, house-numbering and house-listing, formulation and pre-testing of census questionnaires, tabulation programme, method of enumeration and plans for data processing. Training of census personnel is a massive operation and has to be tackled separately. The house-numbering and house-listing operation is a nationwide field exercise and requires very careful attention and control.

The operational unit of population enumeration is a household. A household is a group of persons commonly living together and partaking food from the same kitchen. A household may be occupying an entire house or part of a house. Every house and household is listed for the purpose of census much in advance. Most areas do not have house-numbering and the census organisation prepares upto-date lay-out plans and ascertains that the houses and household are numbered and listed. Notional maps of each village and town are prepared on which

every house is shown. The house-listing and house-numbering operations provide a rough estimate of the size of population.

For the enumeration in Manipur at the 1971 census, one enumerator's block covered 500 to 625 persons in the urban and hill areas and 625 to 750 persons in the rural areas. On an average 150 households in a rural block and 120 households in an urban block were covered by one enumerator. Census questionnaires were evolved by the census commissioner's office after consulting the various departments of the government and census data users. At the 1971 census three schedules were canvassed. These were (i) Houselist (ii) Establishment schedule and (iii) Individual slip. In addition, a 'population record' was filled for each household on the basis of data collected in the individual slip.

After the completion of house-numbering of the houses in each block, the census enumerator filled up the houselist which gave the number of members in the household the type of house they lived in and whether the house was rented or owned. In the establishment schedule, data relating to all establishments were collected.

The individual slip was the main schedule which was universally canvassed for every individual. The individual slip contained 17 questions covering demographic social and economic data of every individual. The information related to relationship to head of household, age, sex, marital status, migration particulars, religion, whether scheduled caste or scheduled tribe, literacy and educational level, mother-tongue, whether worker or non-worker, particulars of main activity if worker and subsidiary work for all.

The census enumeration is carried out by the 'canvasser' method wherein the enumerator approaches every household and fills up the schedule after ascertaining the particulars from the head of the household or other knowledgeable persons in the

household. The reference data of the 1971 census was the sunrise of 1 April 1971. The enumeration period was spread from 10 March to 31 March 1971. All persons normally residing and available in the household including visitors, not enumerated elsewhere during the reference period, were enumerated. The persons on boats, trains or buses over long journeys and the houseless population were enumerated on the night of 31 March 1971. To bring the data uptodate a revisional round of three days during 1—3 April 1971 was undertaken by the enumerators. The revision is carried out for the enumeration of fresh births after the last visit of the enumerator to the household but upto the census reference point of time and also of visitors who had arrived later and who were not likely to have been enumerated elsewhere. The entries relating to deaths that might have occurred during the enumeration period are cancelled.

The whole territory of Manipur state was divided into 26 census charges, one for the municipal area and 25 for the 25 sub-divisions. At the state level, the Director of census operations exercised control and supervision. For the municipal area, the executive officer was appointed the charge officer and for the 25 sub-divisions or charges, the sub-divisional officers/block development officers were appointed as charge superintendents. Above the charge superintendents was the district census officer.

The census is a massive administrative operation and the product of one of the greatest centre-state cooperative ventures. Its success is a tribute to the willing cooperation of every citizen and the army of honorary workers in this national task.

This book contains the basic data of the population census of Manipur state such as population size and its distribution, growth rate of population, rural-urban composition, sex ratio, literacy, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and broad economic activity of the population as revealed by the 1971 census. More detailed statistics are available in the vast census literature being published under the publication programme of the 1971 census.

Chapter II

HOW MANY ARE WE ? AND BY HOW MUCH ARE OUR NUMBERS GROWING ?

The population of Manipur according to the 1971 census is a little over one million only whereas the population of our country is 548 million in round figures. In terms of percentage, the population of Manipur is roughly 0.2 of the total population of India. Around 1971, the population of the world was estimated at 3,706 million or about seven times the population of India. Thus, out of every seven persons in the world, one is an Indian. In the case of Manipur, out of every 511 Indians, one is from Manipur.

If you look at the map of India you will find that Manipur is a small state nestled in between Assam and Burma. It is, therefore, unfair to compare the population of Manipur with that of other big states like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bihar. If we rank all the Indian states in the order of population sizes according to the 1971 census, Manipur occupies the nineteenth position. Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim come after Manipur. In the following table all the Indian states have been arranged according to their population sizes.

Table II. 1

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Population</i>
1	Uttar Pradesh	88,341,144
2	Bihar	56,353,369
3	Maharashtra	50,412,235
4	West Bengal	44,312,011
5	Andhra Pradesh	43,502,708
6	Madhya Pradesh	41,654,119
7	Tamil Nadu	41,199,168
8	Mysore (Karnataka)	29,299,014
9	Gujarat	26,697,475
10	Rajasthan	25,765,806
11	Orissa	21,944,615

Table II. 1--concl'd.

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Population</i>
12	Kerala	21,347,375
13	Assam*	14,957,542
14	Punjab	13,551,060
15	Haryana	10,036,808
16	Jammu & Kashmir	4,616,632
17	Himachal Pradesh	3,460,434
18	Tripura	1,556,342
19	Manipur	1,072,753
20	Meghalaya	1,011,699
21	Nagaland	516,449
22	Sikkim	209,843

*Includes Mizo district now constituted as the Union Territory of Mizoram.

There are some small countries in the world, whose population is even less than the population of Manipur. Countries like Mauritius (0.8m), Congo (Brazzaville) (0.6m), Guyana (0.6m), Trinidad and Tobago (0.8m) and Luxembourg (0.3m) have populations less than that of Manipur.

The area of Manipur is predominantly hilly. The total area of the State is 22,347 sq. kms. Out of this about 20,720 sq. kms. comprise the hilly region. You may now imagine how there has been concentration of the state's population in district regions. The state has been divided into five districts, Manipur Central, Manipur East, Manipur North, Manipur South and Manipur West. The last four districts are entirely hilly areas while Manipur Central district comprises the plain or the Central valley of Manipur and three hilly sub-divisions of Chandel, Chakpikarong and Tengnoupal. Naturally the bulk of the population of the state is found in Manipur Central district. The distribution of the population in the districts is given in the following table.

Table II. 2

<i>Name of district</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Ranking during 1951 to 1971</i>		
		1951	1961	1971
Manipur Central	763,260	1	1	1
Manipur North	104,175	2	2	2
Manipur South	98,114	3	3	3
Manipur East	62,229	4	4	4
Manipur West	44,975	5	5	5

Manipur Central is at the top and Manipur West at the bottom. The ranking of the five districts of Manipur remained the same in all the three censuses of 1971, 1961 and 1951. Manipur Central district comprises the thickly populated fertile valley of Manipur. Therefore, for many years to come it would remain the most populous district of the state. The second, a far second, most populous district is Manipur North with a population of 1.04 lakh. The least populous district is Manipur West with less than 45,000. However, Manipur West district is more populous than Lahul and Spiti (23,538 persons) in Himachal Pradesh which is the least populous district of India.

Average population of Districts in Manipur and Other States

As you know Manipur is a small State and the total population is less than the population of a number of districts of other big states of India. Therefore, Manipur does not fare well when we compare the average district population sizes of all the states of India. Table II. 3 shows the average population of districts in the States and the all-India average.

Table II. 3

<i>Rank in 1971</i>	<i>Country/State</i>	<i>Average population size of a district</i>
	INDIA	1,522,666
1	Bihar	3,314,904
2	Tamil Nadu	2,942,798
3	West Bengal	2,769,501
4	Kerala	2,134,738
5	Andhra Pradesh	2,071,558
6	Maharashtra	1,938,932
7	Orissa	1,688,047
8	Uttar Pradesh	1,635,947
9	Mysore (Karnataka)	1,542,053
10	Assam*	1,495,754
11	Haryana	1,433,830
12	Gujarat	1,405,130

*Includes Mizo district now constituted as the Union Territory of Mizoram.

Table II. 3—*contd.*

<i>Rank in 1971</i>	<i>Country/State</i>	<i>Average population of a district</i>
13	Punjab	1,231,915
14	Rajasthan	990,993
15	Madhya Pradesh	968,700
16	Tripura	518,781
17	Meghalaya	505,850
18	Jammu and Kashmir	461,663
19	Himachal Pradesh	346,043
20	Manipur	214,551
21	Nagaland	172,150
22	Sikkim	52,461

It will be seen that Manipur Central only has a population much above the average population in the districts while in the remaining four districts the population is far below the average district population.

Table II. 4

<i>Population above the average of the districts in the state</i>	<i>Average population of the districts in the state</i>	<i>Population below the average of the district in the state</i>
Manipur Central (763,260)	214,551	Manipur North (104,175)
		Manipur South (98,114)
		Manipur East (62,229)
		Manipur West (44,975)

Manipur West is the least populous district with a population less than one sixteenth of that of Manipur Central.

Let us now examine the distribution of population in all the sub-divisions in the districts.

Table II. 5

<i>Name of district</i>	<i>Name of sub-division</i>	<i>Population</i>
Manipur Central	Imphal West	241,155
	Imphal East	169,937
	Bishenpur	108,306
	Chandel	10,407
	Chakpikarong	10,927
	Jiribam	23,368
	Tengnoupal	17,389
	Thoubal	181,771
Manipur North	Mao West	30,442
	Mao East	35,424
	Sadar Hills	38,309
Manipur South	Churachandpur	46,417
	Tipaimukh	15,214
	Thanlon	12,889
	Churachandpur North	12,114
	Thinghat	11,480
Manipur East	Ukhrul Central	31,740
	Ukhrul North	10,381
	Phungyar Phaisat	8,177
	Kamjong (Chassad)	7,151
	Ukhrul South	4,780
Manipur West	Nungba	14,327
	Tamenglong	14,028
	Tamenglong West	8,888
	Tamenglong North	7,732

There are 25 Sub-divisions in Manipur. Imphal West is the most populous sub-division while Ukhrul South is the least populous one. Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishenpur and Thoubal are purely plain and the population in each was more than one lakh, while the remaining sub-divisions are either entirely hilly or more of hills and less of plain and the population in these sub-divisions ranges from 4,780 persons at the lowest to 46,417 persons at the highest. Five hilly sub-divisions had a population of less than ten thousand persons each.

Areas of the Districts

Let us now look at the areas of the districts of Manipur. Manipur Central district which has the highest population among the districts has also the biggest area. The total area of Manipur Central district is 5,605 sq. km. All the remaining four districts of Manipur have an area below five thousand sq. km. In the following table the districts of Manipur are arranged according to their ranks in area.

Table II. 6

<i>Rank in 1971</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Area in sq. km.</i>
1	Manipur Central	5,605
2	Manipur South	4,581
3	Manipur East	4,409
4	Manipur West	4,344
5	Manipur North	3,417

Density of population

We have very often seen that some areas are comparatively more thickly populated than the others. Thus the number of persons living in the same size of land-area varies from place to place. In the language of the Census, this land-people ratio is called the density of population. Manipur has a population of 1,072,753 with an area of 22,356 Km² giving the state average density of population at 48 per square kilometre.

The density of population varies from State to State in our country. The density of population for our country as a whole was 173 persons per sq. km. at the 1971 Census. Kerala and West Bengal recorded density above 500 persons per sq. km. In three State, viz. Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, the density is above 300 persons per sq. km. The density in fifteen states was below the country's figure. The following table may be seen the ranking of the States has been shown with reference to the density in each State.

Table II. 7

<i>Rank in 1971</i>	<i>Country State</i>	<i>Density of population per sq. km.</i>
	INDIA*	173
1	Kerala	549
2	West Bengal	504
3	Bihar	324
4	Tamil Nadu	317
5	Uttar Pradesh	300
6	Punjab	269
7	Haryana	227
8	Maharashtra	164
9	Andhra Pradesh	157
10	Mysore	153
11	Assam†	150
12	Tripura	149
13	Orissa	141
14	Gujarat	136
15	Madhya Pradesh	94
16	Rajasthan	75
17	Himachal Pradesh	62
18	Manipur	48
19	Jammu & Kashmir	46
20	Meghalaya	45
21	Nagaland	31
22	Sikkim	29

*Excluding population and area figures of Jammu & Kashmir, under unlawful occupation of Pakistan and China where census could not be taken.

†Includes Mizo district now constituted as the Union Territory of Mizoram.

Manipur has shown a rise in the density of population since 1901. In 1901, the density per sq. km. was 13 persons whereas in 1971 the density had risen upto 48 persons per sq. km. The

population density of Manipur per sq. km. in the censuses from 1901 to 1971 is shown below.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Density per sq. km.</i>
1901	13
1911	15
1921	17
1931	20
1941	23
1951	26
1961	35
1971	48

You will find from the above that the density of population has been in the increase since 1901 census in Manipur. The increase in density has been steady and gradual that in 1951, the density was double of that in 1901. But we have noticed an accelerated rate of increase in density from 1961, and in 1971, the density reached 48 persons per sq. km. which is more than three times of that of 1901.

Density in Districts and Sub-divisions

Let us now study the density figures in the districts and the sub-divisions of Manipur.

<i>Districts/Sub-divisions</i>	<i>Density per sq. km.</i>
1. Manipur North district	30
(a) Mao West Sub-division	24
(b) Mao East Sub-division	32
(c) Sadar Hills Sub-division	37
2. Manipur West district	10
(a) Tamenglong North Sub-division	7
(b) Tamenglong West Sub-division	8
(c) Tamenglong Sub-division	16
(d) Nungba Sub-division	11

<i>Districts/Sub-divisions</i>						<i>Density per. sq. km.</i>
3.	Manipur South district	.	.	.	.	21
	(a) Tipaimukh Sub-division	.	.	.	.	19
	(b) Thanlon Sub-division	.	.	.	.	10
	(c) Churachandpur North Sub-division	.	.	.	.	17
	(d) Churachandpur Sub-division	.	.	.	.	69
	(e) Thinghat Sub-division	.	.	.	.	10
4.	Manipur Central district	.	.	.	.	136
	(a) Imphal East Sub-division	.	.	.	.	396
	(b) Imphal West Sub-division	.	.	.	.	503
	(c) Bishenpur Sub-division	.	.	.	.	204
	(d) Thoubal Sub-division	.	.	.	.	449
	(e) Tengnoupal Sub-division	.	.	.	.	18
	(f) Chandel Sub-division	.	.	.	.	10
	(g) Chakpikarong Sub-division	.	.	.	.	8
	(h) Jiribam Sub-division	.	.	.	.	60
5.	Manipur East district	.	.	.	.	14
	(a) Ukhrul North Sub-division	.	.	.	.	12
	(b) Ukhrul Central Sub-division	.	.	.	.	26
	(c) Phungyar Phaisat Sub-division	.	.	.	.	12
	(d) Kamjong Chassad Sub-division	.	.	.	.	7
	(e) Ukhrul South Sub-division	.	.	.	.	8

It will be seen from the above that except in Manipur Central district, the density of population in the remaining four districts is not beyond 30 persons per sq. km. The lowest density is recorded in Manipur West district with only 10 persons per sq. km. It may be noted here that all the four districts namely Manipur North, Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East are entirely hilly regions with highly inadequate transport system till today. The highest density of population (136 persons per sq. km.) is recorded in Manipur Central district which comprises the entire portion of the fertile valley of Manipur. Manipur Central district is the home of Imphal city and six more towns.

Residential houses, households and size of household

Like food and clothing, a house is a basic need of human beings. All of us require houses to protect ourselves from the heat of the sun, rains, winds etc. Due to cultural and socio-economic factors, the types of houses, the materials of the walls and the roofs, and even the shapes of the houses differ from place to place. Apart from counting the number of persons living in our country, the particulars of houses are also recorded at the census. The more detailed data on the houses collected at the 1971 Census will be presented in our Housing Report. Before going into further details about the houses and the households, you may like to know the concepts of house and household used in the Census. In the 1971 Census, a house was defined as a "building or part of a building having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or stair-case etc., used or recognised as a separate unit. It may be inhabited or vacant. It may be used for a residential or non-residential purpose or both." In our Census, the term family is not given due importance. Instead, we use the term household and we collect data relating to them. According to the census definition, "a household" is a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so. There may be 'one member household, two-member household of multi-member household'. The boarding houses, hotels, orphanages, rescue houses, ashrams, jails etc., are called "Institutional households".

We shall briefly discuss the number of occupied residential houses in Manipur and the number of households living therein. At the 1971 Census, the total number of occupied residential houses in Manipur was 177,535 as against 141,858 in the 1961 Census. The bulk of these occupied residential houses was found in the rural areas. The number of residential houses in the rural areas was 155,947, while the remaining 21,588 residential houses were found in the urban areas of the state. In the following table the distribution of the occupied residential

houses in the districts of the State and the average size of the households have been shown.

Table II. 8

<i>State/districts</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>No. of households</i>	<i>Average size of households (1971)</i>
Manipur	177,535	182,593	5.9
Manipur North district	18,986	19,564	5.3
Manipur West district	6,686	6,725	6.7
Manipur South district	15,051	15,290	6.4
Manipur Central district	125,759	129,910	5.9
Manipur East district	11,053	11,104	5.6

The average size of the households in the State is 5.9 persons. In 1961 Census, the average size of the households in the state was 5.3 persons. The increase in the size of the households during the decennial period was nominal. In the districts namely Manipur North, Manipur Central and Manipur East, the average size of the households is less than 6 persons. In Manipur West and Manipur South districts the average size of the households is about 6 but below 7 persons. It will also be seen that in all the districts, the number of households is more than the number of residential houses. This means that there are houses where more than one household are living. However, the disparity between the number of houses and households was not very striking.

It may be of great interest to know the households with reference to the number of rooms occupied by them. In the following table the distribution of the households in the districts has been shown with reference to the number of rooms.

Table II. 9

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Number of households with</i>					
	<i>1 Room</i>	<i>2 Rooms</i>	<i>3 Rooms</i>	<i>4 Rooms</i>	<i>5 Rooms or more</i>	<i>Un- speci- fied</i>
Manipur North	6,943	8,590	2,663	639	402	..
Manipur West	1,856	3,183	1,327	309	149	..
Manipur South	10,555	2,988	1,279	488	145	..
Manipur Central	30,078	42,137	28,902	15,441	10,479	10
Manipur East	4,237	4,771	1,662	308	146	..

It will be seen from the above that the number of households with 2 rooms each was the highest in all districts except Manipur South where the number of households with one room was the highest. Again, in all the districts, the number of households with more than 2 rooms decreased considerably.

You may be aware that at the census we do not ignore houseless population and those living in institutions like jail, hospital etc. We also collect the population figures of such persons. At the 1971 Census there were 487 houseless persons. The institutional population, that is the number of persons living in hospitals, hotels, jails, etc., was 13,757.

Growth Rate of population

By "growth rate" we usually mean the rate at which the population of a given areas is growing or increasing over a given period of time. The growth or change in the absolute number of people during a decade can be ascertained from the difference between the population figures given by the later and earlier censuses. Under normal circumstances, the increase in population is caused by the difference between the number of births and deaths. More births and less deaths means more population. Migration is another factor of population growth. The estimated population of the world in 1970 was 3,632 millions. During the period 1965-70, the birth rate of the world was 34 per 0/00 while the death rate was 14 per 0/00. Thus the annual rate of population increase of the world during the said period was 2.0.

In Asia which is the most populous continent of the world, the annual rate of population increase during 1965-70 was 2.3. The demographers all over the world have expressed their concern over the alarming growth rates of population in some of the thickly populated countries of the world. Population experts have projected the population of the world in 1980 at 4,330,037, (in 0/00). The projected population in 1990 is 5,187,929 (in 0/00) and in 2000 A.D. will be 6,129,734 (in 0/00). It will be

interesting to note the growth rates of population in some of the countries of the world as shown below.

Table II. 10

<i>Name of Country</i>	<i>Latest Census</i>	<i>Annual rate of increase % 1963-70</i>
Australia	1966	2.0
Canada	1966	1.8
Chile	1960	2.4
Ceylon (Sri Lanka)	1963	2.4
Brazil	1960	3.0
Denmark	1965	0.8
France	1968	0.9
Iran	1966	3.0
Japan	1965	1.1
Mexico	1970	3.5
Sweden	1965	0.8
Thailand	1960	3.1
U.K.	1961	0.6
U.S.A.	1960	1.2
U.S.S.R.	1970	1.1
Yugoslavia	1961	1.1

Source : U. N. Demographic year Book 1970.

Our Country is undoubtedly one of the most populous countries in the world. In the following table you may see the growth of India's population from the Census of 1901 to the present Census of 1971.

Table II. 11

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Population variation</i>	<i>Percentage variation</i>
1901	238,396,327	..	..
1911	252,093,390	+ 13,697,083	+ 5.75
1921	251,321,213	— 772,177	— 0.31
1931	278,977,238	+ 27,656,025	+ 11.00
1941	318,660,580	+ 39,683,342	+ 14.22
1951	361,088,090	+ 42,420,485	+ 13.31
1961	439,234,771	+ 77,682,873	+ 21.51
1971	548,159,652	+ 108,924,881	+ 24.80

You will find from the above that till 1921, the growth rate of population of our country was not remarkable. The population of India in 1921 was less than that in 1911. It is only from 1931 onwards that the population of the country has been showing a steady increase. The growth rate of Indian population from one Census to the subsequent one was alarming. For instance, the increase of population from 1951 to 1961 was 78 million which is several million more than the total population of the countries like Turkey, France, Italy, F.R. of Germany, Spain, U.K., Australia, Nigeria, U.A.R., Canada, Mexico and many others. The decade variation of population between 1961 and 1971 was 109 million and this is more than the total population of Japan (104 million) or Indonesia (96 million) or Pakistan (94 million) or Brazil (92 million). After the World War II and particularly after India's Independence, there has been remarkable improvement in the Medical Science, Public health services and sanitary services.

As a result of the above measures the death rate in the country has been greatly controlled and decreased thereby resulting in an increase in population the death rate which was above 40 in 1901 went down to below 20 in 1970, whereas the birth rate in 1970 stood at 37.0 per 1,000 of population. In our country except for certain areas migration is insignificant. So the migration factor does not contribute much in the growth of population.

Growth Rate of population of Manipur

The growth rate of population of Manipur does not fit into the all-India pattern. The increase of population in 1911 over that of 1901 was over 61 thousand persons or in terms of percentage variation, it was + 21.71. In 1921 Census, the decadal growth rate was only + 10.92 per cent with a net increase of a little over 37 thousand. In each of the censuses of 1931, 1941 and 1951, the net increase of population was more than 60 thousand whereas in 1961 as well as in 1971, the net increase of population was more than 2 lakhs. In terms of percentage decade variation, the growth rate in 1961 and 1971 was

+ 35.04 and + 37.53 respectively. It will be noticed that there was a gradual decline in the growth rate of population in the two Censuses of 1941 and 1951 and from 1961 a sudden growth rate of population was observed and that trend of growth continued in 1971 census also. The fall in the growth rate of population in 1951 may be partly attributed to the World War II. The details of the growth rates of population of Manipur are furnished in the following table.

Table II. 12

<i>Year</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Decade variation</i>	<i>Percentage decade variation</i>
1901 . . .	284,465	..	..
1911 . . .	346,222	+ 61,757	+ 21.71
1921 . . .	384,016	+ 37,794	+ 10.92
1931 . . .	445,606	+ 61,590	+ 16.04
1941 . . .	512,069	+ 66,463	+ 14.92
1951 . . .	577,635	+ 65,566	+ 12.80
1961 . . .	780,037	+ 202,402	+ 35.04
1971 . . .	1,072,753	+ 292,716	+ 37.53

Chapter III

VILLAGE DWELLERS AND TOWN DWELLERS

Most of us know the difference between a town and a village. A village or town is recognised as the basic area of habitation. In the rural area the smallest area of habitation follows the limits of a revenue village that is recognised by the normal district administration. The revenue village need not necessarily be a single agglomeration of the habitations. But the revenue village has definite surveyed boundary and each village is a separate administrative unit with separate village accounts. It may have one or more hamlets. There may be unsurveyed villages within forests etc.

For all demographic and sociological studies of population it is customary to bifurcate the same into rural and urban. In our country, the rural population is extremely enormous. Almost 80 per cent of India's population live in the villages. Like the rest of the country, the areas of Manipur are predominantly rural. The rural life of Manipur is still simple though the influence of the towns is increasingly felt. The rural area of Manipur covers 22,310.1 square kilometres and as much as 86.81 per cent of total population live in villages. There are 1993 villages in Manipur, out of which 1949 villages are inhabited. In some villages the number of inhabitants is more than one thousand persons whereas in others the number is less than two hundred only. In order to enable us to have a good idea of habitation by size class, the inhabited villages have been classified under six categories according to the population sizes in the villages. The number of villages in each size class of population is given below:

Below 200 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	974 villages
200—499 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	476 villages
500—999 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	237 villages
1,000—1,999 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	172 villages
2,000—4,999 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	79 villages
Above 5,000 persons	·	·	·	·	·	·	8 villages

It will be seen from the above that the highest number of villages was found in the first category where the population in each village was less than 200 persons. Along with the increase in population size in the village, the member of villages decreases. The number of villages having size of population above 5,000 was only 8. Let us now look into the distribution of the villages in the districts with reference to the above noted six categories of population sizes.

<i>Population size</i>	<i>No. of villages in the districts</i>				
	<i>North Dist.</i>	<i>West Dist.</i>	<i>South Dist.</i>	<i>Central Dist.</i>	<i>East Dist.</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
Below 200 . .	272	98	220	262	122
200—499 . .	77	69	100	165	65
500—999 . .	36	15	32	132	22
1,000—1,999 . .	15	2	9	140	6
2,000—4,999 . .	4	..	1	73	1
Above 5,000 . .	..	..	..	8	..

Except Manipur Central district, the other four districts of Manipur are hilly region. The villages in these four hilly districts are thinly populated and a large majority of the villages in these districts have less than 200 persons each. With the increase of population in the village, its number also decreases. In Manipur West district there was not a single village with a population of 2,000 persons. In Manipur North, Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East districts, there was no village having a population of more than 5,000 persons. It is only in Manipur Central district which is predominantly a plain area that villages representing all the six categories of population sizes are found.

Let us now focus our attention to the towns or the urban areas. It is well known that towns serve as centres for the spread of knowledge, education and technology and influence the growth of socio-economic life of the areas around. In the present as well as the past censuses, the population of the country has been divided into two broad categories viz., rural and

urban. This is because the rural and urban areas are the basic areas of habitation. It is difficult to define an urban area because there is no universally accepted definition of a town. The definitions of an urban area as adopted by a few countries of the world have been given below.

CANADA (1971)

“Urban” includes the population living in cities, towns and villages of 1,000 and over, whether incorporated or not. It includes also the urbanized fringes of these centres in all cases where the population of the city or town together with its urbanized fringe amounts to 10,000 or more.

U.S.S.R. (1970)

Urban includes cities and urban type localities, officially designated as such by each of the constituent Republics, usually according to the criteria of number of inhabitants and predominance of agricultural or non-agricultural workers and their families.

PAKISTAN (1961)

Urban areas include Municipalities, Civil-lines and Cantonments not included within Municipal limits etc., and any other continuous collection of houses inhabited by not less than 5,000 persons which the provincial Director may decide to treat as urban for census purposes.

CEYLON (1971)

Areas which statutorily declared as coming within the purview of municipal, urban or town councils (3 types of local authorities) are taken as urban while all other areas are taken as rural.

As you know, regular decennial censuses in our country began from the year 1881 onwards. Till the 1951 Census, the definitions of a town were not uniform. But, at the 1961 and

Source : Census in India 1971—Indian Census in Perspective (New Delhi 1972). pp. 131, 361-365.

1971 Censuses, the definitions of a town are basically the same. At these two censuses, a place was recognised as a town if it was either a Municipal Corporation area, or a Municipal area or under a Town Committee or a Notified Area Committee or a Cantonment Board. In the absence of any of these urban local bodies, the following empirical tests are applied.

- (i) A minimum population of 5,000.
- (ii) A density of not less than 400 per sq. km. (1000 per sq. miles).
- (iii) At least 75% of the occupations of the male working population should be outside agriculture.

According to the above criteria at the 1971 Census, eight places were recognized as towns. One of them has a Municipality and the remaining seven are Notified Areas. The names of the towns are Imphal (100,366), Churachandpur (8,706), Kakching (8,611), Moirang (8,378), Thoubal (5,682), Bishenpur (4,234), Nambol (3,296) and Lamlai (2,219). The figures within the parentheses denote the population in each town.

Comparison with other States

Manipur is among the less urbanised states of India. The rural population was almost ten times the urban population at the 1971 Census. However, the urban population of 1971 fared better than that of earlier censuses due to the increase of urban centres at the 1971 Census. Till 1961 Census there was one urban centre only throughout Manipur. But in 1971 the number of urban units rose to eight. We shall discuss the growth of urban population at a later stage.

At the 1971 Census the percentage of urban population to the total population was 19.91 for the country as a whole. The percentage of urban population of Manipur to her total population stands at 13.19 only.

Thus the percentage of urban population of Manipur is below the all-India average. The percentage of urban popula-

tion of many other states like Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim and Tripura is below the Manipur percentage. Maharashtra tops the list regarding the percentage of urban population. Tamil Nadu and Gujarat come second and third respectively. The percentage of urban population in the states have been shown in the following table.

Table III. 1

<i>Country/State</i>	<i>Percentage of urban population to total population (1971)</i>
1	2
INDIA	19.91
Andhra Pradesh	19.31
Assam*	8.87
Bihar	10.00
Gujarat	28.08
Haryana	17.66
Himachal Pradesh	6.99
Jammu & Kashmir	18.59
Kerala	16.24
Madhya Pradesh	16.29
Maharashtra	31.17
Manipur	13.19
Meghalaya	14.55
Mysore	24.31
Nagaland	9.95
Orissa	8.41
Punjab	23.73
Rajasthan	17.63
Sikkim	9.37
Tamil Nadu	30.26
Tripura	10.43
Uttar Pradesh	14.02
West Bengal	24.75

*Including erstwhile Mizo district.

It will be seen from the above table that Manipur is behind a number of states so far as the extent of urbanisation is concerned. However, other big states like Assam, Bihar and Orissa

are behind Manipur. Even the biggest state like Uttar Pradesh with only 14.02 per cent does not far much better than Manipur. When we focus our attention to the growth or urban population of Manipur we find that there has been a gradual decline of the percentage of urban population right from the census of 1901 onwards. In 1901, the percentage of urban population to the total population was 25.39 which in the next census of 1911 came down to 21.56. In the censuses of 1921, 1931 and 1941 the percentages are 20.83, 19.26 and 19.47 respectively. In 1951 Census we find entirely a different picture. As the definition of the urban area was strictly followed at the 1951 Census the urban population of Manipur was reduced to 2,862 persons. Hence in 1951, the percentage of urban population to the total population of Manipur stood at about 0.5 only. The percentage of urban population of Manipur at the 1961 Census was 8.68 and at the 1971 Census the percentage rose to 13.19.

Urbanisation in the Districts

Till the Census of 1961 there was no district in Manipur. Manipur was a Union Territory then divided into 25 sub-divisions for the purpose of administration. However, for census purposes, the whole of Manipur was treated as one district at the 1961 Census. In the year 1969 Manipur was divided into five districts and accordingly we have collected the data in respect of these five districts at the 1971 Census. Of the five districts. Manipur Central and Manipur South districts have urban units. The remaining three districts namely Manipur North, Manipur East and Manipur West districts do not have any urban unit at the 1971 Census. Manipur Central district has seven towns and Manipur South district has one town only. The birth of a town, namely Churachandpur, in Manipur South district which is also mostly hilly is mainly due to the fact that this town is located in the plain area of the said district and it is one of the commercial junctions along the busy Tiddim Road which, starting from Imphal, passes through a number of commercial places some of which have now been recognised as towns.

At the 1971 Census also the towns have been classified into six classes according to the size of population. A town having a population of one lakh and above was treated as a Class I town or a city. A class II town with a population of 50,000-99,999 persons and a class III town 20,000-49,999 persons. Towns having a population of 10,000-19,999, 5,000-9,999 and below 3,000 were classified respectively as Class IV, Class V and Class VI. According to the above classification one town comes under Class I, 4 towns under Class V and 3 towns under Class VI as shown below.

Class I	.	.	.	.	Imphal
Class V	.	.	.	.	Churachandpur, Kakching, Moirang and Thoubal.
Class VI	.	.	.	.	Bishenpur, Nambol and Lamlai.

There are no towns in Class II, Class III and Class IV. Excluding Churachandpur town, all the other towns are located in Manipur Central district and the total urban population in the said district is 132,786 persons out of the total population of 763,260 persons in the district. The proportion of urban population in the district is 17.39 per cent. Similarly Churachandpur which is the only town in Manipur South district accounts for 8.87 per cent of the population of the district. It will be worthwhile to know the proportion of urban population by each class of towns. Imphal with 100,366 persons and also a Class I town accounts for 9.3 per cent of the population of Manipur. Class V towns represented by Churachandpur, Kakching, Moirang and Thoubal with a total population of 31,377 persons account for 2.9 per cent of the population of Manipur, and another 0.9 per cent of the population is represented by the three Class VI towns of Bishenpur, Nambol and Lamlai with a total urban population of 9,749 persons.

Urban Growth Rate

Except Imphal, all the other seven towns came into existence after 1961 Census. Therefore it is not possible to examine the differential growth rates of these new towns. We may now examine Imphal city which had been recognised as a town from

as early as the 1901 Census. Let us look at the urban population figures at the various censuses :

1901	.	.	.	.	72,234
1911	.	.	.	.	74,650
1921	.	.	.	.	80,003
1931	.	.	.	.	85,804
1941	.	.	.	.	99,716
1951	.	.	.	.	2,862
1961	.	.	.	.	67,717
1971	.	.	.	.	100,366

The urban population figures from 1901 to 1961 stand for Imphal town only as there was no town other than Imphal in Manipur till 1961. At the 1941 Census, the population of Imphal was almost one lakh thereby showing a steady increase of population from 1901 onwards. The population of Imphal at the 1951 Census shrank down to an alarming number. This is because, as has been stated earlier, only a small portion of Imphal had been treated as an urban area. It may be mentioned here that there was no municipality in Manipur at the time of 1951 Census. But at the 1961 Census we get a different picture when the population of Imphal shot up to more than 67 thousand persons. Imphal Municipality was constituted in 1956. The population of Imphal reached one lakh in 1971. It is natural for Imphal to attain the status of a city in 1971 because it is one of the major commercial centres east of Calcutta. Functionally speaking, Imphal is an industrial and commercial city. The present industrial status of Imphal is partly associated with the cultural background of the people and the type of industry that we find in Imphal is mostly cottage in nature. As most of us know, the people of Manipur, especially the womenfolk are good at their looms and the handloom products which carry the cultural genius of the womenfolk need little description. In several parts of Imphal the looms do not remain idle and this age-old industry is still propagated by many for their livelihood. It may also be mentioned here that after the completion of the much awaited multi-purpose Loktak Project of Manipur, the present shortage of electricity will be extremely minimised and a good number of small and medium sized industries

are expected to be set up in Manipur. This means urban oriented in-migration of the ruralites and Imphal will become more thickly populated than before as a result of increase in the volume of trade and commercial activities.

Urbanization in the Sub-divisions

It has been stated earlier that there is no urban unit in the hill districts of Manipur North, Manipur West and Manipur East at the 1971 Census. There is only one town in the hill district of Manipur South and seven towns in Manipur Central district which is predominantly plain. Thus out of the 25 Sub-divisions in the State five sub-divisions only have urban units. The biggest urban unit is the city of Imphal which occupies areas of Imphal West and Imphal East sub-divisions. The smallest town namely Lamlai is located at Imphal East Sub-division while the area of Nambol town is shared by Imphal West and Bishenpur Sub-divisions. In addition to Nambol town, Bishenpur sub-division has two more towns namely Bishenpur and Moirang. Thoubal sub-division has two towns namely Thoubal and Kakching. All these seven towns are small towns within the population range of 2000-9000 persons. These are all notified areas and there is no municipality in any of them.

At the 1971 Census two new concepts have been adopted. These are the UA and the SUA which stand for "Urban agglomeration" and "Standard urban area" respectively. In Manipur no urban agglomeration has been reported. But one Standard Urban Area has been adopted. The concept of SUA is quite new to most of us. By Standard Urban Area we mean the projected growth area of a city or a big town of a population size of 50,000 and above as it would be say after thirty years or so taking into account not only the towns and villages which will get merged with the said city but other contiguous areas which possess urban characteristics. Thus Standard Urban Area includes such rural areas which within a period of thirty years or so may become fully urbanized and be incorporated within the city or the big town which has been adopted as a Standard Urban Area. The Standard Urban Area which will remain

unchanged in its boundary for at least thirty long years will remain as a statistical reporting unit for the next three successive censuses and will be of immense significance so far as urban development planning is concerned. In Manipur only one Standard Urban Area has been adopted around the core city of Imphal at the 1971 Census. The Standard Urban Area of Imphal includes the area of Imphal Municipality and 85 rural components.

List of towns in Manipur, 1971 by their size class

<i>Name of town</i>	<i>Population in 1971</i>	<i>Name of district</i>
1	2	3
Class I (100,000 and above)		
Imphal	100,366	Manipur Central
Class II (50,000 to 99,999)	Nil	
Class III (20,000 to 49,999)	Nil	
Class IV (10,000 to 19,999)	Nil	
Class V (5,000 to 9,999)		
Churachandpur	8,706	Manipur South
Kakching	8,611	Manipur Central
Moirang	8,378	Do
Thoubal	5,682	Do
Class VI (Less than 5,000)		
Bishenpur	4,234	Do
Nambol	3,296	Do
Lamlai	2,219	Do

Chapter IV

ARE THE NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN BALANCED? HOW OLD ARE WE?

Sex Ratio:

No study of population is complete without making an enquiry into the number of males and females. This is because the growth of population is very much related with the number of males in relation to the number of females. Take for instance, a country, a State or even a village where the number of males is much greater than the number of females or vice versa. Can you imagine the consequences for the imbalance of the numbers of males and females? Nature, however, has intended that the numbers of males and females should more or less be equal and the difference in the numbers of the sexes may indicate that something is wrong with the general health of the population or migration of either sex is heavy or similar such circumstances thereby creating a number of social problems. This quantitative relationship between the sexes is what we call sex ratio. As concrete example, sex ratio of population is expressed as the number of males per 1000 females in the relevant population in most of the countries of the world. This definition conforms to the international practice, but deviates from the Indian practice which, following the British censuses, defines sex ratio as the ratio of females to males i.e., the number of females per 1,000 males. In the present study also, we refer to the ratio of females to males.

Why Unbalanced sex Ratio?

Parity of sexes, that is, equal numbers of males and females is the ideal composition of population. But in most of the countries, this does not happen. Always, the number of females is either more or less than the number of males. Many population experts have noticed that, in most of the countries the number

of males born is more than the number of females born. However, the power of survival of female infants is greater than that of the male infants resulting in a lower death rate of female over male infants. In this way, nature maintains some balance in the sex ratio. In underdeveloped countries female infant and maternal mortality is normally caused by malnutrition, disease and poor or no medical care. War, migration, occupation etc. are some of the important factors for producing an unbalanced sex ratio. It is a well known fact that during the last World War II the male population in European countries as well as in Japan was very much reduced.

Migration is caused by a number of factors like War, political circumstances, search for employment, etc. Migration may take place from one country to another or from one state to another within the same country. The country to country migration which is also known as international migration affects the sex ratio of the country as a whole. The inter-state migration within the same country produces change of the regional sex ratio only. Under normal circumstances, inter-state migration takes place in order to get employment opportunities. For instance, in a country like India migration of able bodied males from the rural areas to the big cities and industrial areas in search of employment takes place leaving their women and children behind. Migration of women for similar purposes seldom takes place in our country. It is for this reason that in big cities in India, the number of males is more than the number of females.

Sex ratio of India and the States

If we have a glimpse of the trend in population growth in India we find that the number of males is greater than the number of females. The present total population is made up of 284,049,276 males and females 264,110,376. In the following table, the sex ratio of our country at each census has been shown.

<i>Census Year</i>	<i>Sex Ratio</i>
1901	972
1911	964
1921	955
1931	950
1941	945
1951	946
1961	941
1971	930

It will be seen from the above that from 1901 to 1971, the sex ratio has been gradually decreasing, except at the 1951 Census. The insignificant increase in the sex ratio at the 1951 Census may be tentatively attributed to a decrease in the growth rate of male population as a result of World War II. At the 1971 Census, the ratio stands at 930 females per 1000 males which may be considered an unfavourable ratio. According to U.N. Demographic Year Book 1971, life expectation of India male has been found to be higher than that of females.

Let us now look at the sex ratios in different states of India. It will be seen at a glance that the distribution of the sexes is not uniform in all the Indian States as shown below.

<i>Country/States</i>	<i>Sex Ratio (1971)</i>
INDIA	930
Andhra Pradesh	977
Assam*	897
Bihar	954
Gujarat	934
Haryana	867
Himachal Pradesh	958
Jammu & Kashmir	878
Kerala	1016
Madhya Pradesh	941
Maharashtra	930
Manipur	980
Meghalaya	942
Mysore	957
Nagaland	871

*Including erstwhile Mizo district (Now U.T. of Mizoram).

<i>Country/States</i>	<i>Sex Ratio (1971)</i>
Orissa	988
Punjab	865
Rajasthan	911
Sikkim	863
Tamil Nadu	978
Tripura	943
Uttar Pradesh	879
West Bengal	891

It will be seen from the above that Kerala is the only state whose female population exceeds male population in number. In all the remaining states, the number of males is more than the number of females. Again Maharashtra is the only state whose sex ratio is equal to the all-India figure. Thus, except Maharashtra, in twelve states the sex ratio is above all India figure and in nine states it is below. The general trend therefore, is that in almost all the states the sex ratio is low. Though parity of the sexes is the ideal ratio and if we assume that a short-fall of, say, 30 females per 1,000 males is a fairly acceptable sex ratio, then Orissa (988) tops the list followed by Manipur (980), Tamil Nadu (978) and Andhra Pradesh (977). If you compare the sex ratio of Manipur with that of other states of India you will find that Manipur has a favourable sex ratio.

Sex ratio in Manipur and the districts

Manipur is among the few states of India whose sex ratio in the past censuses was in favour of the females. That is, the number of females was more than the number of males, except in the year 1971 when the ratio was only 980 females per 1000 males. The sex ratios of Manipur in the past censuses are shown below.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Sex ratio</i>
1901	1037
1911	1029
1921	1041
1931	1065
1941	1055
1951	1036
1961	1015
1971	980

The sex ratio of Manipur was highest in 1931, and since then it has declined gradually. Till 1961 the number of females was more than the number of males, but in 1971 the number of females has declined considerably and the short-fall is 20 females per 1000 males. In the absence of industries and rail heads which would have otherwise encouraged heavy migration or influx of people mostly males from outside, the increase in male population in Manipur may be attributed to the drama of births and deaths. As stated earlier, at the 1971 Census, the sex ratio in Manipur is 980 females per 1000 males. This is also the ratio for both the rural and urban areas of Manipur.

In the five districts of Manipur, the sex ratios do not show considerable variation as shown below:

<i>District</i>	<i>Sex ratio</i>
Manipur North	950
Manipur West	1016
Manipur South	976
Manipur Central	984
Manipur East	969

Except in Manipur West district where the number of females is more than the number of males, in the remaining four districts, namely Manipur North, Manipur South, Manipur Central and Manipur East, the sex ratio is in favour of the males. That is to say, the number of males in each of these four districts is more than the number of females. Manipur North district records the lowest sex ratio with 950 females per 1000 males. The sex ratios in Manipur North, Manipur South and Manipur East are below the state average of 980 females per 1,000 males and in Manipur West and Manipur Central districts the ratio is above the state average.

It will be worthwhile to know the sex ratios in the subdivisions in each district also. The sex ratios in all the Subdivisions have been shown below:

<i>District</i>	<i>Sub-division</i>	<i>Sex ratio</i>
Manipur North	(1) Mao West	876
	(2) Mao East	1013
	(3) Sadar Hills	955

<i>District</i>	<i>Sub-division</i>	<i>Sex Ratio</i>
Manipur West	(1) Tamenglong North	990
	(2) Tamenglong West	1039
	(3) Tamenglong	964
	(4) Nungba	1069
Manipur South	(1) Tipaimukh	950
	(2) Thanlon	1003
	(3) Churachandpur North	1019
	(4) Churachandpur	962
	(5) Thinghat	996
Manipur East	(1) Ukhrul Central	935
	(2) Phungyar Phaisat	982
	(3) Kamjong Chassad	1040
	(4) Ukhrul South	974
	(5) Ukhrul North	1013
Manipur Central	(1) Imphal West	980
	(2) Imphal East	1000
	(3) Bishenpur	980
	(4) Thoubal	988
	(5) Tengnoupal	926
	(6) Chandel	1033
	(7) Chakpikarong	1003
	(8) Jiribam	918

The total number of sub-divisions in Manipur is 25, of which 20 are hill sub-divisions and the remaining five namely Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishenpur, Thoubal and Jiribam—all in Manipur Central district, are plain sub-divisions. In Mao West sub-division only, the sex ratio is under 900. In 9 sub-divisions, the ratio is below state average of 980. And out of the remaining 16 sub-divisions, 6 are either equal to or above state average but below parity, one viz., Imphal East, is at par, while the rest as detailed below, have shown more females as compared to males.

<i>Sub-division</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Sex Ratio</i>
Mao East	Manipur North	1013
Tamenglong West	Manipur West	1039
Nungba	Manipur West	1069
Kamjong Chassad	Manipur East	1040
Ukhrul North	Manipur East	1013

<i>Sub-division</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Sex Ratio</i>
Chandel	Manipur Central	1033
Chakpikarong	Manipur Central	1003
Thanlon	Manipur South	1003
Churachandpur North	Manipur South	1019

It will be interesting to note from above that except Manipur North district, each of the remaining four districts has two female predominant sub-divisions each. Manipur North district has one female predominant sub-division only.

Sex ratio in towns of Manipur

At the 1961 Census, there was one town only in Manipur. This town was Imphal, the capital of Manipur. Consequent on the declaration of seven other notified areas as towns before the census count of 1971 began, the total number of towns at the time of 1971 Census rose to eight. The names of these seven new towns are Bishenpur, Churachandpur, Kakching, Lamalai, Moirang, Nambol and Thoubal. All these new urban areas are small towns whose population ranges from a little over 2,000 persons at the minimum to 9,000 persons at the maximum. Let us now have a glimpse of the sex ratios in all the urban areas of Manipur.

<i>Name of Town</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Sex Ratio</i>
Bishenpur	2,167	2 067	954
Churachandpur	4,471	4,235	947
Imphal	50,742	49,624	978
Kakching	4,309	4,302	998
Lamlai	1,105	1,114	1008
Moirang	4,259	4,119	967
Nambol	1,596	1,700	1065
Thoubal	2,795	2,887	1033

Imphal is the only city of Manipur. The rest are towns. The sex ratio of Imphal is 978 and it is below the state average. It is natural for Imphal to have more male population because it has a number of small industries business and commercial houses, government and private offices, educational institutions etc., which attract a large number of males from other areas. Out of the eight urban centres, only three have higher

female population. Except Imphal, the other four towns where the ratio is below the average do not possess any male selective features worth to be noted.

It has been observed now that Manipur had been one of the few states of India having more female population. From the Census of 1901 till the Census of 1961, that is, for 60 years, the number of females had been more than the number of males though the sex ratio has been steadily falling down in favour of the males. At the 1971 Census the picture has changed in favour of the males, and the ratio is below parity now. This indicates that the increasing rate of female mortality has not been checked. It is high time that corrective measures should be taken up for preventing female mortality by intensifying maternity and child welfare facilities on a wider scale.

Age Structure

For the government, the planners, educationists, and the intelligent public it is essential to know the age-composition of the population inasmuch as other data on sex, occupation etc., are required. Age is a basic characteristic of population. At the 1971 Census the age was recorded in completed years at the last birth day. For example, if a boy is 14 years and 5 months old, his age is recorded as 14 years only and the period of 5 months is ignored. In respect of infants who might not have completed one year by the day of enumeration their age in completed years was shown as '0'. The age data are compiled for each age-group and also for males and females separately. With the help of age data we are able to know how many are children, how many are adults and still how many are old and aged. In our country, those under the age-group 0-14 years are treated as children or as young population. The adult or the working population is normally in the age-group of 15-59 years while those aged 60 years and above belong to the old and retired section of the population. Of the three age-groups the first and the last, that is those under the age-groups of 0-14 years and 60 years and above are usually non-earning group. Those under the age-group 15-59 are usually the economically active group.

The proportion of the population in the two age-groups of 0-14 years and 60 years and above to the working age-group of 15-59 years gives us an idea of the number of dependents that the working population has to support. In many advanced countries where the birth-rate is extremely low, the proportion of the dependent population to the working population is lower than that of backward or underdeveloped countries. Take the case of a few advanced countries like U.K. or France. In U.K. the young group, that is, those under the age-group of 0-14 years comprises 23.54 per cent of the total population. The population belonging to the working group and the old age-group represent 57.92 per cent and 18.54 per cent respectively. Similarly in France, 25.08 per cent of the population belongs to the young group, 57.06 per cent to the working group and 17.86 per cent to the old age-group. In most of the advanced countries of Europe and other advanced countries, the proportion of the working group to the total population is higher due to the fact that the population of the children is not very high as we find in many backward countries. In the case of our country for example, the population in the age-group 0-14 years comprises 42.02 per cent of the total population. The dependency ratios in some of the advanced as well as backward countries of the world have been shown in the following table.

Table IV. 1

Country	Year	Population in the age-group of		
		0—14 yrs.	15—59 yrs.	60 yrs. and above
1	2	3	4	5
Austria . . .	1968	1773114 (24·13)	4106956 (55·88)	1469427 (19·99)
Switzerland . . .	1968	1429950 (23·54)	3653350 (60·13)	992150 (16·33)
Federal Rep. of Germany	1969	13468387 (23·34)	33770235 (58·53)	10459813 (18·13)
France . . .	1968	12480340 (25·08)	28387400 (57·06)	8888040 (17·86)
U.K. . . .	1969	11496000 (23·54)	28280000 (57·92)	9050800 (18·54)
U.S.S.R. . . .	1961	69560000 (32·19)	125337000 (58·00)	21204000 (9·81)

Table IV·1—*Contd.*

1		2	3	4	5
U.S.A.	· · ·	1969	59304000 (29·18)	116132000 (57·15)	27779000 (13·67)
Canada	· · ·	1968	6565500 (31·65)	11871700 (57·23)	2306800 (11·12)
Brazil	· · ·	1960	29931481 (42·69)	36763263 (52·43)	3434327 (4·88)
Congo	· · ·	1961	240200 (41·30)	310500 (53·39)	30900 (5·31)
Hongkong	· · ·	1968	1526000 (38·88)	2162100 (55·09)	236600 (6·03)
Japan	· · ·	1968	24422000 (24·08)	66600000 (65·68)	10386000 (10·24)
China (Taiwan)	· · ·	1968	5794187 (42·45)	7202970 (52·77)	653213 (4·78)
Ceylon	· · ·	1963	4389655 (41·48)	5502171 (52·00)	690238 (5·52)
Pakistan	· · ·	1961	40178518 (44·50)	44717335 (49·53)	5386821 (5·97)
INDIA	· · ·	1971	230253987 (42·02)	284886839 (51·99)	32692765 (5·97)

Figures in parentheses show percentage to total population.

Source : U.N. Demographic Year Book, 1969.

Age-composition in Manipur

In the light of the above, let us now examine the age-composition of Manipur. At the 1971 Census 42.50 per cent of the population is represented by the children under the age-group of 0-14 years. The active or the working population under the age-group of 15-59 years make 51.41 per cent of the total population and the aged population under the age-group of 60 years and above make 6.09 per cent only of the total population. Thus, almost fifty per cent of the population are under the young and old age-groups. This shows that almost half of the total population are to be supported by the other half represented by the persons under the age-group 15-59 years. Even among these persons, there might be hundreds who are actually unemployed. One thing is certain that the volume of dependency is enormous. Let us now have a little more of figures on age-composition with regards to total, rural and urban population.

Table IV.2**Age Structure of Population of Manipur 1971**

<i>Total Rural Urban</i>	<i>Age Group (years)</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1	2	3	4
Total	0—14	455,940	42·50
	15—59	551,481	51·41
	60+	65,328	6·09
	A.N.S.	4	N
Rural	0—14	400,994	43·06
	15—59	473,923	50·89
	60+	56,340	6·05
	A.N.S.	4	N
Urban	0—14	54,946	38·83
	15—59	77,558	54·82
	60+	8,988	6·35

A.N.S. = Age not stated.

'N' stands for negligible.

What about the proportions of the population under the three broad age groups in the districts? Does one district fare better than the other? Here are the facts in figures for all the five districts of Manipur.

You will find from the following that in all the districts, the population under the age-group 0-14 years comprises more than 40 per cent of the total population. The percentage of the economically active population under the age-group 15-59 years is above 50 but below 52 per cent in all districts except Manipur South where the percentage is below 50. The percentage of the aged population in all the districts is above 5 but below 7. In four districts the percentage of young population i.e. those under 0-14 years of age is above the State percentage of the same age-group while the percentage of the economically active population under the age-group of 15-59 years is below the State percentage of the equivalent age-group. Coming to the third age-group of 60 years and above, we find three districts, viz. Manipur North, Manipur South and Manipur East have percentage of population lower than that of the State in the same age-group. The highest percentage of dependency is found in Manipur South district where the economically active population under the age-group of 15-59 years makes only 49.47 per cent of the total population of the district.

Table IV. 3

State/District	0—14 years		15—59 years		60 years and above	
	Population	Percentage to total population	Population	Percentage to total population	Population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MANIPUR						
Manipur North	455,940	42.50	551,481	51.41	65,328	6.09
Manipur West	45,419	43.60	53,338	51.20	5,418	5.20
Manipur South	19,253	42.81	22,633	50.32	3,089	6.87
Manipur Central*	43,838	44.68	48,536	49.47	5,740	5.85
Manipur East	320,530	41.99	395,212	51.78	47,514	6.23
	26,900	43.23	31,762	51.04	3,567	5.73

*E. cluding 4 males who have not stated their age.

Sex Differentials in Different Age Groups

In the previous paragraphs we described the sex ratio of the population of Manipur in a broad manner. Let us now examine the sex ratio obtained in each district under the three broad age-groups of 0-14 years, 15-59 years and 60 years and above. The break-up of the population in the districts under the said three age-groups has been presented in the next page.

We have earlier about the high proportion of the population of the youthful age-group of 0-14 years. Out of the total population of 1.07 million, 0.45 million comprising 42.50 per cent of the total population belong to this youthful age-group. The sex ratio in this age-group is 991 girls per 1,000 boys. There is some change in the ratio at the district level. As has been explained earlier, Manipur North with 950 females per 1,000 males records the lowest ratio among the districts. But as regards ratio in the age-group 0-14 years, the lowest ratio is found, not in Manipur North district but in Manipur East district. In Manipur West district, the ratio is above par in this age-group.

In the next economically active age-group of 15-59 years there are 0.55 million persons making 51.41 per cent of the total population. In this age-group, the population is in favour of males making ratio of 970 which is far below the State ratio. Except in Manipur West district, the ratio in the other districts is below par, and in three districts viz. Manipur North, Manipur Central and Manipur East, the ratio is lower than the State ratio. In the last age-group of 60 years and above, we find an entirely different picture. In three districts, namely Manipur North, Manipur West and Manipur South, the female population is extremely low and the ratio is fairly unfavourable.

In all these three districts the ratio is far below 900. In Manipur East, which shows a poor ratio of 969 when the entire district population is taken into account, a change in ratio is observed in favour of the females under this last age-group. Here the ratio is above parity. Similarly, in Manipur Central district also, the ratio in this old age-group is in favour of females with 1027 females per 1000 males.

Table IV · 4

State/District	Population in age-groups										
	0—14 years				15—59 years				60 years and above		
	Males	Females	Sex ratio		Males	Females	Sex ratio		Males	Females	Sex ratio
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
MANIPUR	.	228,889	227,051	991	279,935	271,546	970	32,847	32,481	989	
Manipur North	.	23,015	22,404	973	27,537	25,801	936	2,866	2,552	890	
Manipur West	.	9,545	9,708	1017	11,086	11,547	1041	1,682	1,407	837	
Manipur South	.	22,199	21,639	974	24,358	24,178	993	3,090	2,650	858	
Manipur Central*	.	160,492	160,038	997	200,746	194,466	969	23,443	24,071	1027	
Manipur East	.	13,638	13,262	972	16,208	15,554	960	1,766	1,801	1020	

*Excluding 4 males who have not stated their age.

Chapter V

HOW MANY OF US CAN READ AND WRITE?

The ability to read and write makes a man literate. In Indian Census, information on literacy was collected from the beginning. Besides data on literacy, additional information was also collected. For instance, in 1872, information about 'youths upto age 20 attending school, college or under private tuition' was recorded. From 1901 to 1941 Censuses, there was an additional question whether the literate knew English or not. Information on the standard of education was collected for the first time in 1941 Census continued in every subsequent census. Information on Literacy and Educational level was collected from each individual in 1971 Census.

Who is then a literate person? At the 1971 Census "a person is considered literate if he can both read and write with understanding in any language. A person who can merely read but cannot write is not a literate. Ability merely to sign one's name is not adequate to qualify a person as being able to write with understanding. If a person claims to be literate in some other language with which the enumerator is not acquainted, the respondent's word has to be taken as correct. Other members of the household may also be able to testify to the literacy of the person enumerated." An illiterate "is a person who can neither read nor write or can merely read but cannot write in any language. All children of the age of 4 years or less should be treated as illiterate even if the child is going to a school and may have picked up reading and writing a few odd words."

The highest educational level attained by a person was ascertained and recorded. For a person who was still studying in a particular class the highest level attained by him/her was the one that he/she had actually passed and not one in which studying.

Literacy in Indian States

Indian States have varying rates of literacy. Some States have more than 30 per cent of the population literate while other States have less than 20 per cent. In Table V.1 the literacy rates in the States have been furnished. While calculating the percentage, population under the 0-4 age-group has been included.

Table V.1

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Country/State</i>	<i>Percentage of literates to total population</i>
1	2	3
	INDIA	29.45
1	Kerala	60.42
2	Tamil Nadu	39.46
3	Maharashtra	39.18
4	Gujarat	35.79
5	Punjab	33.67
6	West Bengal	33.20
7	Manipur	32.91
8	Himachal Pradesh	31.96
9	Mysore (Karnataka)	31.52
10	Tripura	30.98
11	Meghalaya	29.49
12	Assam	28.72
13	Nagaland	27.40
14	Haryana	26.89
15	Orissa	26.18
16	Andhra Pradesh	24.57
17	Madhya Pradesh	22.14
18	Uttar Pradesh	21.70
19	Bihar	19.94
20	Rajasthan	19.07
21	Jammu & Kashmir	18.58
22	Sikkim	17.74

Source : Registrar General, India: Pocket Book of Population Statistics 1972.

Out of the 22 Indian States, 11 States have literacy rate higher than the all-India rate. In term of ranking Kerala tops the list with 60.42 per cent. The second position goes to Tamil Nadu with 39.46 per cent and the third to Maharashtra with 39.18 per cent. Manipur ranks seventh with 32.91 per cent. With a mere excess of 0.29 per cent over that of Manipur, the sixth position goes to West Bengal. The performance of Manipur in the field of literacy is commendable if we consider the fact that many major States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, to mention a few, where there are a number of universities, are far behind Manipur in the ranking of literacy. Sikkim with 17.74 per cent is the last State in rank.

Growth of Literacy in Manipur

As you know, the rate of literacy in any State does not remain the same in different periods of time. For example, the rate of literacy in 1971 was different from that of 1961 in Manipur. It may be worthwhile to examine the growth of literacy in Manipur from 1941 onwards. Because, the year 1941 has special significance in that Manipur was under the British then. On Sunday the 10th May, 1942 Manipur was bombarded by the Japanese and became an area of World War II. The devastation of the war which lasted till the end of 1944 or the beginning of 1945 had its repercussion upon the growth of literacy in Manipur to be reflected in 1951 Census. Thus the growth of literacy in Manipur passes through three different phases. Upto 1941 it was a peaceful period of British rule. The second phase from 1941 to 1951 was a period of war, destruction, independence and reconstruction. Period from 1951 to 1971 is the third phase or the post-independence era of self-rule. In the background of these three periods let us now examine the growth of literacy in Manipur.

In 1941 the total population of Manipur was 512,069 persons. The total literate population was 24,905 persons only consisting of 23,242 males and 1,663 females. Thus the proportion of literates to total population was 4.86 per cent in 1941. The proportion of female literates to total female population was

miserably poor with 0.63 per cent only. And the proportion of male literates to total male population stood at 9.33 per cent. In 1941 the majority of the literates are males and they represent 93.32 per cent of the total literates. After one decade, that is in 1951, the total literate population was 65,895 persons and their proportion to the total population was 11.41 per cent. As in 1941 Census, the female population is lagging far behind in literacy in 1951 Census also. Out of the total literate population of 65,895 persons, 6,962 females only were returned as literates and they represent 2.37 per cent of the total female population. The proportion of male literates to total male population was 20.77 per cent and showed a considerable improvement over that of 1941. The performance of 1951 with 11.41 per cent of literacy was much better than that of 1941 with only 4.86 per cent. The growth rate of literacy rate from 1941 to 1951 was 134.77 per cent.

In 1961 Census we find a different picture. In the said year, the literacy rate rose to 30.42 per cent with 237,276 persons out of the total population of 780,037 being literate. In absolute numbers, the total number of male literates is 174,656 and the total number of female literates is 62,620. Compared with the males, the females have not made much headway in the field of literacy in 1961 also though there is considerable improvement over that of 1951. 62,620 literate females make only 15.93 per cent of the total female population while the males with 174,656 literates comprise 45.12 per cent of the total male population. The overall picture of literacy is that from 11.41 per cent in 1951 to 30.42 per cent in 1961 is a good achievement, and the growth rate of literacy rate is 166.61 per cent. This is not very bad. Does the growth rate show any improvement in 1971 also? In 1971, 353,090 persons were returned as literates and their percentage to the total population is 32.91. The increase of 2.49 per cent from 1961 or a growth rate of literacy rate of 8.19 per cent is a poor performance. The proportion of 249,383 male literates to the total male population in 1971 is 46.04 per cent while the proportion of 103,707 female literates to the total female population is 19.53 per cent. The improvement of both

male and female literacy rates over that of 1961 is rather poor. In Table V. 2, the proportions of literates to the total population in the Censuses from 1941 onwards have been shown.

Table V.2

Literacy Rates in Manipur : 1941-1971
(0 to 4 years included)

		1941	1951	1961	1971
Total	P	512,069	577,635	780,037	1,072,753
	M	249,183	283,685	387,058	541,675
	F	262,886	293,950	392,979	531,078
Literate	P	24,905	65,895	237,276	353,090
	M	23,242	58,933	174,656	249,383
	F	1,663	6,962	62,620	103,707
Percentage	P	4.86	11.41	30.42	32.91
	M	9.33	20.77	45.12	46.04
	F	0.63	2.37	15.93	19.53

Literacy in the Districts and Sub-divisions of Manipur

In the foregoing paragraphs we have seen a general picture of literacy rates in the State. It may now be interesting to note the literacy rates in the districts of Manipur.

The proportion of literate population to the total population is highest in Manipur South district with 34.68 per cent. This is closely followed by Manipur Central district with 34.64 per cent and Manipur East district with 34.10 per cent. These three districts have literacy rates above the State average. The proportion of literate population to the total population in Manipur North district is 22.65 per cent and in Manipur West district it is 21.87 per cent. These two districts have literacy rates far behind the State average.

In all these five districts, the number of literate males is more than the number of literate females. Therefore, the proportions of male literates to the total literate population is greater

than the corresponding proportion of the female literates. As regards proportion of male literates to the total male population it is found greater than that of the females. In Manipur North district 32.89 per cent of the total male population are literates while only 11.88 per cent of the total female population are literates in the same district. In Manipur West district again the proportion of male literates to the total male population is 32.29 per cent while that of the female is 11.62 per cent. The proportion of male literates to the total male population in Manipur South district is 44.84 per cent and that of the females stands at 24.28 per cent. The corresponding figures for Manipur Central district for males and females are 48.84 per cent and 20.21 per cent respectively. In Manipur East district 45.71 per cent of the male population are literates and 22.11 per cent of the female population are literates. Thus, except in Manipur Central district, the proportion of male literates to the total male population in all the four districts is lower than that of the State (46.04 per cent). As regards females, Manipur North and Manipur West districts have proportion lower than that of the State (19.53 per cent). In Table V. 3 the proportions of literate persons to the total population for all the districts have been shown.

Table V.3

Percentage of literate persons by Sex

<i>State/District</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1	2	3	4
Manipur	32.91	46.04	19.53
Manipur North	22.65	32.89	11.88
Manipur West	21.87	32.29	11.62
Manipur South	34.68	44.84	24.28
Manipur Central	34.64	48.84	20.21
Manipur East	34.10	45.71	22.11

Sub-divisions

We have noted the progress of literacy in the State as well as in the districts. Now, it will be worthwhile to note the literacy

rates in the sub-divisions of Manipur. In Manipur there are 25 sub-divisions and all the sub-divisions do not have more or less uniform pattern of literacy rates. The districts which have higher literacy rates will naturally have sub-divisions with high literacy rates. Since the literacy rate of the State is 32.91 per cent, we may consider those sub-divisions having 30 per cent or more as having good literacy rates. It is gratifying to note that out of 25 sub-divisions, 10 show a literacy figure of 30 per cent and above. The names of these ten sub-divisions are shown below.

Table V.4

<i>Name of sub-division</i>	<i>Literacy Rate</i>
1. Imphal West	43.48
2. Tipaimukh	42.61
3. Churachandpur	40.17
4. Phungyar Phaisat	39.15
5. Ukhrul Central	38.33
6. Imphal East	36.88
7. Chandel	31.66
8. Bishenpur	31.10
9. Jiribam	30.69
10. Kamjong (Chassad)	30.01

Imphal West sub-division tops the list with 43.48 per cent of literacy. From Manipur Central district five sub-divisions out of eight have been included in the list. Out of five sub-divisions of Manipur East district, three have been included, and in Manipur South district out of five sub-divisions only two could come into the picture. No sub-division of either Manipur North or Manipur West district has been included as the literacy rates of all the sub-divisions in these two districts are below 30 per cent.

Progress of Literacy in Urban and Rural areas of Manipur

The progress of literacy in the urban areas of the world is generally better than that obtained in the rural areas. This is the case not only of our country but also of all the States including Manipur. Let us now examine the rate of literacy in both the rural and urban areas of Manipur in the 1971 Census.

Table V.5

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Population	1,072,753	931,261	141,492
Literate Population	353,090	277,756	75,334
Percentage of literates to total/rural/ urban population	32.91	29.83	53.24

Rural Literacy

Almost three-fourths of the rural population of Manipur are illiterates. This is not however an exceptional case. Manipur with 29.83 per cent of rural literacy fares much better than other major Indian States. Manipur has higher rural literacy rate than the country's figure (23.74) per cent or Andhra Pradesh (19.19) Assam (25.80), Bihar (17.17), Gujarat (28.33), Mysore (Karnataka) (25.13), to mention a few.

In all the districts, the performance of the males is better than that of the females. The highest male literacy rate is recorded in Manipur East district with (45.71 per cent, closely followed by Manipur South district 45.66 per cent) and Manipur Central district (45.28 per cent). The lowest male literacy rate is found in Manipur West district with 32.29 per cent. In Manipur North, the rate stands at 32.89 per cent. It may be noted that there is no urban population in Manipur North, Manipur West and Manipur East districts and the total population in each district has been treated as rural. In female literacy Manipur South district tops the list with 22.21 per cent closely followed by Manipur East district (22.11 per cent). As in the case of the males, Manipur West district has the lowest rural female literacy (11.62 per cent).

Urban Literacy

Out of the five districts in Manipur, only two districts namely Manipur Central and Manipur South have urban areas. The performance of the males and the females in these two districts in the field of literacy is worth nothing. Out of 66,973 male population in the urban areas of Manipur Central district there

are 44,022 males returned as literates. The proportion of the literate urban males to the total urban male population is 65.73 per cent. The corresponding percentage in Manipur South district is 66.88 where 2990 out of 4471 urban males are found literate. In female literacy also Manipur South district leads Manipur Central district with 45.88 per cent whereas the corresponding percentage in Manipur Central district is 40.08 only.

Let us now have a closer look into the literacy rates in the individual towns of Manipur. In Table V. 6 the proportion of literate population to the total population of each town has been shown.

Table V.6

<i>Name of town</i>	<i>Percentage of total male female literate population to</i>		
	<i>Total Population</i>	<i>Male population</i>	<i>Female population</i>
1	2	3	4
Bishenpur	39.09	55.70	21.67
Churachandpur	56.66	66.88	45.88
Imphal	56.90	69.62	43.89
Kakching	38.82	49.66	27.96
Lamlai	35.74	50.68	20.92
Moirang	42.40	53.11	31.32
Nambol	53.91	66.29	42.29
Thoubal	38.23	52.49	24.42

It will be seen from the above that the literacy rates in the urban areas of Manipur are fairly satisfactory. With 56.90 per cent Imphal leads the other towns in literacy. Churachandpur stands second with 56.66 per cent and Nambol third with 53.91 per cent. The literacy rates in the remaining towns are below 50 per cent. Lamlai with 35.74 per cent comes last. As regards male literacy also Imphal leads the rest with 69.62 per cent followed by Churachandpur with 66.88 per cent. Nambol is still in the third position with 66.29 per cent of male population being literate. The lowest rate of male literacy is recorded in Kakching with 49.66 per cent.

There is a surprising change as regards female literacy. Imphal does not enjoy Number One position in female literacy. Churachandpur leads the rest with 45.88 per cent of female population being literate and Imphal stands second with 43.89 per cent and the third position goes to Nambol with 42.29 per cent. Lam-lai with 20.92 per cent of its female population being literate comes last.

Chapter VI

OUR MOTHER TONGUE

The collection of data on mother-tongue has been an important feature of Indian Census since 1881. In 1881 the definition of the term 'mother-tongue' meant 'the language ordinarily spoken in the parental home of each person'. In 1891 it was 'the language ordinarily spoken in the household of the parents, whether it be that of the place of enumeration or not'. In 1901 the title of the column was changed to 'language ordinarily used'. These instructions, however, brought out curious results and many persons instead of returning their native tongue gave the language which they used. At the Census of 1911 revised instructions were issued and it was laid down that language to be returned was that which each person ordinarily spoke in his own home. In case of infants and deaf mutes language of the mother was to be entered. The definition of mother-tongue as was decided in 1911, more or less remained unchanged through the subsequent census. As for instance in 1971 census mother-tongue was defined as "the language spoken in childhood by the person's mother to the person". If the mother died in infancy, the language mainly spoken in the persons home in childhood will be the mother-tongue. In the case of infants and deaf mutes the language usually spoken by the mother shall be recorded.

India is a big country with many speeches. Almost every ethnic group in the country has a language of its own. That is why we have Bengali as a predominant language in Bengal, Marathi in Maharashtra, Gujarati in Gujarat and so on. A scientific study of the Indian languages was taken up for the first time by Sir George A. Grierson over a period extending from 1895 to 1927, and the product of his survey is the monumental work entitled "The Linguistic Survey of India" which runs into several volumes. Most of us know that there are hundreds of mother-tongues or languages spoken in India. The languages spoken in different states and union territories of India today has been classified by Grierson many years ago. It is not necessary to go

into the minute details of his classification of the Indian languages. It will be relevant to mention here only the broad classification of the Indian languages by Grierson. According to him most of the Indian languages have been classified into four broad categories or language families. They are: (i) Indo European family, (ii) Dravidian family, (iii) Austro-Asiatic family and (iv) Tibeto-Chinese family.

Speaker of languages (inclusive of mother tongues grouped under each) Specified in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India.

There are fifteen languages scheduled in schedule VIII to the Constitution of India. The names of these fifteen languages are Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The distribution of the speakers of these languages inclusive of mother tongues grouped under each for the country as a whole has been shown in Table VI. 1. It will be seen that the number of speakers of Hindi is highest. Their percentage to the total population is 38.04. The second position, that too a distant second, goes to Bengali with 8.17 per cent and closely followed by Telugu. The last or the fifteenth position goes to Sanskrit with 2,212 speakers only. About 95 per cent of the population of the country are speakers of these languages.

Table VI.1

<i>Name of language</i>	<i>Number speakers</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1	2	3
1. Assamese	8,959,558	1.63
2. Bengali	44,792,312	8.17
3. Gujarati	25,865,012	4.72
4. Hindi	208,514,005	38.04
5. Kannada	21,710,649	3.96
6. Kashmiri	2,495,487	0.46
7. Malayalam	21,938,760	4.00
8. Marathi	41,765,190	7.62
9. Oriya	19,863,198	3.62

	1	2	3
10. Punjabi		14,108,443	2.57
11. Sanskrit		2,212	Negligible
12. Sindhi		1,676,875	0.31
13. Tamil		37,690,106	6.88
14. Telugu		44,756,923	8.17
15. Urdu		28,620,895	5.22
Others		25,400,027	4.63

Speakers of languages (inclusive of mother-tongues grouped under each) Specified in Scheduled VIII to the Constitution of India.

In Manipur the total population of speakers of languages specified in schedule VIII to the Constitution is very small. The proportion of the languages does not conform to the all-India pattern. For instance, for the country as a whole Hindi has the largest number of speakers and Bengali comes next. But in Manipur, Bengali tops the list followed by Hindi. The distribution of the speakers of these languages and their percentage to total population is given below:—

Table VI.2

<i>Name of language</i>	<i>Total speakers</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1. Assamese	1,736	0.16
2. Bengali	15,025	1.40
3. Gujarati	43	N
4. Hindi	11,631	1.08
5. Kannada	43	N
6. Kashmiri	16	N
7. Malayalam	804	0.08
8. Marathi	117	0.01
9. Oriya	70	0.01
10. Punjabi	1,575	0.15
11. Sanskrit	Nil	Nil
12. Sindhi	12	N
13. Tamil	834	0.08
14. Telugu	292	0.03
15. Urdu	311	0.03
Others	1,040,244	96.97

N=Negligible.

Manipuri/Meithei which is the major language of the State and many other native languages of Manipur do not find mention in Schedule VIII to the Constitution. Since the proportion of the languages scheduled under the Constitution is less than 4 per cent of the total number of speakers in the State, their importance in the linguistic structure of the State is not of much significance. A list of mother-tongues/languages and the number of their speakers in Manipur according to 1971 Census has been given in Appendix I of this chapter. Let us now examine a few major languages/mother-tongues in Manipur returned at the 1971 Census.

Ten Major languages/Mother-tongues in Manipur

It may be interesting to examine ten numerically strong languages returned in Manipur and their distribution in both the rural and urban areas.

Table VI.3

Sl. No.	Name of language/Mother tongue	Number of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1.	Manipuri/Meithei	678,402	63.24
2.	Kabui	58,527	5.46
3.	Tangkhu	57,586	5.37
4.	Thado	49,217	4.59
5.	Gorkhali/Nepali	26,381	2.46
6.	Mao	25,572	2.38
7.	Paite	23,857	2.22
8.	Hmar	22,805	2.13
9.	Bengali	15,025	1.40
10	Kuki	14,488	1.35

Manipuri/Meithei which is the mother-tongue of more than 63 per cent of the total population is undoubtedly the *lingua franca* of the State. Manipuri/Meithei is understood by almost every inhabitant of the State. The remaining nine numerically strong mother-tongues represent about 27 per cent of the total

population of the State. Two Naga languages namely Kabui and Tangkhul come next to Manipuri/Meithei with 5.46 per cent and 5.37 per cent respectively. It may be interesting to note that two non-native and non-tribal languages viz. Bengali and Gorkhali/Nepali have been returned among the ten numerically strong mother-tongues of the State. The picture in the rural and urban areas is given in Table VI.4. In Table VI.4 the distribution of ten numerically strong mother-tongues in the rural and urban areas of Manipur has been shown. It will be seen that Manipur/Meithei which is the predominant language in the State maintains the same position in both the rural and urban areas also.

The position of the languages/mother-tongues in the rural area remains almost unchanged from that of the State. But when it comes to urban area, except Manipuri/Meithei, there is remarkable change in respect of other mother-tongues. Tangkhul which occupied second position in both state and rural area does not maintain its position in the urban areas. It goes down to the ninth position. Two new mother-tongue names appear in the urban scene. They are Hindi and Lushai/Mizo. Surprisingly Hindi takes the second position in numerical strength. Bengali which was last in the rural area takes the fifth position in the urban area. Thado takes the last position in urban area.

Distribution of languages/mother-tongues in the Districts

Some of the districts of Manipur State are being inhabited by one majority community. For instance in Central district the Manipuris are the major community. Similarly in Manipur East district the Tangkhuls form the major community, in Manipur West the Kabuis and Maos in Manipur North. The mother-tongues of these major communities are naturally the principal mother-tongues of the second districts. Thus, Manipuri/Meithei is the mother-tongue with highest number of speakers in Manipur Central. Tangkhul in Manipur East, Kabui in Manipur West and Mao in Manipur North districts. The distribution of five major mother-tongues in each district of Manipur has been furnished in Appendix II. Manipuri/Meithei which is the major language in the state is not so in all the districts except in

Table VI-4

Sl. No.	Language/Mother-tongue	No. of speakers (Rural)	Percentage to total rural population	Language/Mother-tongue	No. of speakers (Urban)	Percentage to total urban population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Manipuri/Meithei	562,122	60.36	Manipuri/Meithei	116,280	82.18
2.	Tangkhul	56,557	6.07	Hindi	5,070	3.58
3.	Kabui	54,361	5.84	Kabui	4,166	2.94
4.	Thado	48,342	5.19	Paite	2,708	1.91
5.	Mao	25,290	2.72	Bengali	2,090	1.48
6.	Gorkhali/Nepali	24,632	2.65	Gorkhali/Nepali	1,749	1.24
7.	Hmar	21,238	2.28	Hmar	1,567	1.11
8.	Paite	21,149	2.27	Lushai/Mizo	1,157	0.82
9.	Kuki	13,810	1.48	Tangkhul	1,029	0.73
10.	Bengali	12,935	1.39	Thado	875	0.62

Manipur Central district. In the said district, 87.98 per cent of the population are speakers of Manipuri/Meithei. A far distant second position goes to Bengali with 1.92 per cent of speakers to the total population. Third, fourth and fifth positions go to Thado, Hindi and Kabui languages respectively.

In Manipur North district, Mao takes the first position with 32.99 per cent of speakers to the population. The second largest language is Gorkhali/Nepali with 15.89 per cent, and third is Thado with 15.56 per cent. Kuki is fourth and Thangkhul the fifth.

Manipur West district is the home of the Kabuis and 78.17 per cent of the population in the district speak Kabui language. Thado is the second major language with 10.20 per cent of the population speaking Kuki, Vaiphei and Hindi are third, fourth and fifth major mother-tongues respectively.

In Manipur South district, Paite and Hmar closely complete with one another though first position goes to Paite with 21.67 per cent of the population as its speakers. Hmar stands second with 20.78 per cent of the people speaking it 13.78 per cent of the population speak Thado—the third largest language in the district. Vaiphei and Lushai/Mizo are fourth and fifth major mother-tongues respectively.

In Manipur East district which is the home of the Tangkhul Naga, 82.53 per cent of the population speak Tangkhul language. The second major language is Thado spoken by 6.70 per cent of the population. 5.53 per cent of the population speak Kuki—the third major language. Manipuri/Meithei is the fourth and Gorkhali/Nepali is the fifth major languages.

It may be noted that Thado is the only major language spoken in all the five districts of Manipur. Manipuri/Meithei which claims to be the largest language in the State does not figure in the first five numerically strong languages in three districts namely Manipur North, Manipur West and Manipur South.

APPENDIX I

Distribution of languages/mother-tongues (inclusive of mother-tongues where grouped), having speakers more than 10,000 at country level, returned in Manipur state — 1971 census.

Sl.No.	Language/mother-tongue	NUMBER OF SPEAKERS		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1. Adi		3	..	3
2. Angami		39	38	1
3. Ao		938	925	13
4. Arabic/Arbi		28	28	..
5. Assamese		1,736	1,601	135
6. Bengali		15,025	12,935	2,090
7. Bhotia		1	1	..
8. Bishnupuriya		188	178	10
9. Bodo/Boro		4	3	1
10. Chinese/Chini		216	197	19
11. Coorgi/Kodagu		5	5	..
12. Dimasa		34	34	..
13. Dogri		76	67	9
14. English		64	50	14
15. Garo		16	16	..
16. Gorkhali/Nepali		26,381	24,632	1,749
17. Gujarati		43	26	17
18. Hindi		11,631	6,561	5,070
19. Hmar		22,805	21,238	1,567
20. Kabui		49,339	45,173	4,166
21. Kannada		43	29	14
22. Kashmiri		16	13	3
23. Khasi		233	216	17
24. Konkani		6	4	2
25. Kuki		14,488	13,810	678
26. Kurukh/Oraon		67	67	..

Sl. No.	Language/mother-tongue	NUMBER OF SPEAKERS		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
27. Lotha		4	4	..
28. Lushai/Mizo		6,001	4,844	1,157
29. Malayalam		804	733	71
30. Manipuri/Meithei		678,402	562,122	116,280
31. Mao		34,760	34,478	282
32. Marathi		117	104	13
33. Mikir		140	140	—
34. Mishmi		299	299	—
35. Munda		3	3	—
36. Mundari		2	2	—
37. Naga		42	25	17
38. Oriya		70	61	9
39. Paite		23,857	21,149	2,708
40. Punjabi		1,575	711	864
41. Sangtam		1	1	..
42. Santali		15	15	..
43. Sema		2	1	1
44. Sindhi		12	..	12
45. Tamil		834	813	21
46. Tangkhul		57,586	56,557	1,029
47. Telugu		292	228	64
48. Thado		49,217	48,342	875
49. Tibetan		3	3	..
50. Tripuri		89	89	..
51. Tulu		4	..	4
52. Urdu		311	284	27
53. Vaiphei		11,758	11,237	521
4. Others		63,128	61,169	1,959

APPENDIX II

Number of speakers and percentage to total population of five numerically strong languages/mother-tongues returned in each district of Manipur state --1971 census

<i>District</i>	<i>Language/mother-tongue</i>	<i>No. of speakers</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1	2	3	4
Manipur North (104,175)	• Mao	34,363	32.99
	• Gorkhali/Nepali	16,550	15.89
	• Thado	16,205	15.56
	• Kuki	6,480	6.22
	• Tangkhul	4,652	4.47
Manipur West (44,975)	• Kabui	35,159	78.17
	• Thado	4,589	10.20
	• Kuki	700	1.56
	• Vaiphei	474	1.05
	• Hindi	365	0.81
Manipur South (98,114)	• Paite	21,266	21.67
	• Hmar	20,387	20.78
	• Thado	13,516	13.78
	• Vaiphei	8,392	8.55
	• Lushai/Mizo	4,414	4.50
Manipur Central (763,260)	• Manipuri/Meithei	671,517	87.98
	• Bengali	14,631	1.92
	• Thado	10,739	1.41
	• Hindi	8,526	1.12
	• Kabui	8,205	1.07
Manipur East (62,229)	• Tangkhul	51,356	82.53
	• Thado	4,168	6.70
	• Kuki	3,444	5.53
	• Manipuri/Meithei	815	1.31
	• Gorkhali/Nepali	727	1.17

NOTE : The languages given in the table are inclusive of mother-tongues where grouped.

Chapter VII

THE RELIGIONS WE FOLLOW

We cannot ignore the significance of religion in the life and culture of any people throughout the world. Religion is an important social variable having a bearing on the demographic, cultural, health and economic characteristics of the population. Our country, that is Bharat, is a big country whose inhabitants follow different faiths that in no other country do we find such a phenomenon. Besides, our Constitution under Articles 25 to 28 guarantees that every Indian is free to profess, practise and propagate any religion of his or her choice. In the name of religion, no one is discriminated against. That is why, India is known as a secular state. It also includes freedom to manage religious affairs i.e. maintenance of institutions for religious purposes. There are other freedoms like payment of tax for promotion or maintenance of any particular religion, attendance at religious institution or religious worship in certain educational institutions. Propagation of any faith does not permit the use of force or fraud for religious conversion. At the census, religion is an important item about which data have been collected. This is because our actions, our activities, our thoughts are considerably influenced by our religious persuasion. It may, however, be said that modern and higher education has to some extent minimize the influence of religion upon our thought and activities. Let us now have a look into the religious composition of India's population at the 1971 Census.

Religious Composition of the population of India

It has been mentioned already that India is a land of many religions. Followers of all the major religions of the world are found in India. However, the number of the followers of Hinduism is the highest. That is why another name of India is Hindustan—the land of the Hindus. In the following table the number of persons professing the major religions in the country is shown.

Table VII.1

<i>Religious community</i>	<i>Population (1971)</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1	2	3
Hindus	453,436,630	82.72
Muslim	61,418,269	11.20
Christians	14,225,045	2.59
Sikhs	10,378,891	1.89
Buddhists	3,874,942	0.71
Jains	2,604,837	0.48
Other religions and Persuasions	2,184,955	0.40
Religion not stated	36,083	0.01
Total	548,159,652	100.00

Source: Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India—Paper 2 of 1972: RELIGION.

You will find from the above table that the population of the Hindus is alarmingly great with 82.72 per cent of the total population. The total population under all religions combined represents less than 20 per cent of the total population. The Muslims whose absolute number is more than the total population of some of the Muslim countries of the world occupy a distant second position with only 11.20 per cent. Next to the Muslims, the Christians enjoy 2.59 per cent so far as proportion of the Christians, to the total population is concerned. The Sikhs with over ten million persons represent only 1.89 per cent of the total population of the Indian sub-continent. The percentage of either the Buddhists or the Jains is less than one. Besides, there are followers of minor religions with an absolute number of less than three million representing 0.40 per cent of the total population. Thus, out of every one hundred Indians, nearly 83 are Hindus, eleven Muslims, three Christians, two Sikhs and one Buddhist.

Percentage Distribution of Population By Religion

We have seen that the percentage of Hindus to the total population is 82.72 at the 1971 Census. Let us now examine

the percentages obtained in the States with reference to the major religions of India. If we divide the Indian States into two groups—one group with more than 80 per cent of Hindus and the other with less than 80 per cent, we find Manipur in the later group. The proportion of Hindus is less than 80 per cent in Manipur, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya and Nagaland. In the remaining States, the proportion of Hindu population is more than 80 per cent. In this respect, Orissa tops the list with 96.25 per cent of population being Hindus, followed by Himachal Pradesh (96.08 per cent) and Madhya Pradesh (93.68 per cent). Among the States, the lowest percentage of Hindu population is recorded in Nagaland with 11.43 per cent only, whereas among the Union Territories, the lowest proportion of Hindu population is recorded in Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands (4.86 per cent).

As regards the second biggest community namely the Muslims, their population is normally high in those states and union territories where the Hindu population is low. Thus L. M. & A. Islands which record the lowest Hindu population in the Indian Union have the highest percentage of Muslim population (94.37 per cent). The second and third position with high percentage of Muslim population go to Jammu & Kashmir and Assam with 65.85 per cent and 24.03 per cent respectively. The proportion of Muslim population in Manipur is among the lowest with 6.61 per cent only.

Nagaland tops the list of States and U.T.'s combined with 66.76 per cent so far as the percentage distribution of Christian population is concerned. Meghalaya stands second with 46.98 per cent closely followed by the U.T. of Goa, Daman and Diu. The fourth place is occupied by Andaman & Nicobar Islands with 26.35 per cent of Christian population. Manipur occupies fifth position with 26.03 per cent of her population being Christians.

The population of Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains is negligible in Manipur. Any of them is below 0.14 per cent. However, the Sikh population is highest in Punjab with 60.22 per cent followed

by the U.T. of Chandigarh with 25.45 per cent. Delhi and Haryana have 7.16 per cent and 6.29 per cent respectively. In the remaining States and U.T.'s the highest and lowest percentages of Sikh population are 2.29 and 0.01 respectively.

Since the proportion of the Buddhists in India is only 0.70 per cent, we cannot expect a better picture in the States and U.T.'s. Excepting Arunachal Pradesh (13.13 per cent), Maharashtra (6.47 per cent) and Tripura (2.72 per cent), in the remaining states and the union territories, the percentage distribution of Buddhist population is below two. The position of the Jains is less satisfactory with 1.99 per cent in Rajasthan, being the highest percentage throughout the country. Gujarat (1.69%) and Maharashtra (1.40%) stand second and third positions respectively. In Manipur the percentage distribution of Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains is 0.10, 0.05 and 0.13 respectively.

Religious Composition of Manipur

The population of Manipur is predominantly Hindu. Hinduism had been the State religion during the days of the early Manipuri kings. The following table shows the population of Manipur under important religions as per 1971 Census.

Table VII.2

<i>Name of Religion</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1	2	3
Hinduism	632,597	58.97
Christianity	279,243	26.03
Islam	70,969	6.61
Jainism	1,408	0.13
Sikhism	1,028	0.10
Buddhism	495	0.05
Other Religions and Persuasions	83,167	7.75
Religion not stated	3,846	0.36

It will be seen from the above table that more than fifty per cent of the total population of Manipur are Hindus. The

Christians come second—a distant second—with 26.03 per cent. Besides the Hindus and the Christians, other religious communities like the Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, etc. comprise the minor communities so far as their population size is concerned. The Muslims who form the third largest community in Manipur account for 6.61 per cent of the total population with 70,969 persons only. The population of either the Jains or the Sikhs is below 1,500 and of the Buddhists is even less. Each of them represents less than 0.14 per cent of the total population.

It may be mentioned here that Manipur has a long tribal belt where the people are still following the traditional region of their forefathers. These have been grouped under "Other Religions and Persuasions" and they represent more than 7 per cent of the total population of the state.

Religious Compositions in the Districts

Let us now examine the religious compositions of the population in the districts and see how far the districts conform with or differ from the state pattern. In Table VII.3, the percentage of each religion to the total population of the state and the districts have been shown.

For those who are not familiar with the topography of this landlocked tiny State of Manipur it may be mentioned at the outset that Manipur is predominantly hilly. Out of the total area of 8628 sq. miles of the State, about 8000 sq. miles are hilly areas leaving a narrow strip of land in the centre called Imphal Valley. Imphal Valley is the traditional home of the Manipuri Hindus while the Scheduled tribes inhabit the vast hill tract around the Valley.

Hinduism

Manipur Central district corresponds almost in area with Imphal Valley—the home of the Hindus. This is why the proportion of Hindu population is almost eighty per cent in Manipur Central district. Second comes Manipur North district with 19.20 per cent of the population being Hindus. Manipur North is a

Table VII.3

State/District	Percentage of each Religion to total population (1971)								
	Hinduism	Christianity	Islam	Jainism	Sikhism	Buddhism	Other religion and persuasions	Religion not stated	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
MANIPUR	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Manipur North	58.97	26.03	6.61	0.13	0.10	0.05	7.75	0.36	
Manipur West	19.20	56.13	0.36	0.01	0.05	0.21	22.92	1.12	
Manipur South	4.91	77.61	0.08	0.01	0.04	0.01	17.30	0.04	
Manipur Central	5.68	89.11	0.19	0.01	0.03	0.09	3.88	1.01	
Manipur East	78.97	5.39	9.22	0.18	0.12	0.02	5.89	0.21	
	3.33	92.00	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.04	4.46	0.03	

hilly district and compared with other hilly districts of Manipur the proportion of Hindu population in the said district is a bit high. This is presumably because of concentration of Nepali population in this district. In the remaining three hilly districts of Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East, the proportion of Hindu population is less than 6 per cent.

Christianity

Christianity has the second largest following in the state at the 1971 census. Among the districts the total Christian population in the State is 279,243 persons comprising 26.03 per cent of the total population. Since the Hindu population is highest in Manipur Central district, it is natural to have higher proportions of Christian population in the remaining four hilly districts. As compared with Hinduism and Islam, Christianity is a new religion in Manipur. We have seen earlier that the growth of Christian population in Manipur was enormous during the post war period. The proportion of Christian population is highest in Manipur East district with 92 per cent. Manipur South district comes next with 89.11 per cent. These two districts top the list of districts throughout the country so far as the proportion of Christian population is concerned. The remaining two hilly districts do not lag behind. Manipur West occupies the 5th position with 77.61 per cent and Manipur North 7th position with 56.13 per cent. It is only in Manipur Central district that the proportion of Christian population is 5.39 per cent only.

Islam

It is numerically the third most important religion in Manipur in 1971. The total Muslim population at the 1971 census was 70,969 persons comprising 6.61 per cent of the total population of the state. The distribution of the Muslims in the districts is not uniform. The concentration of the Muslims is found in Manipur Central district only. Out of the total Muslim population of 70,969 persons, 70,343 are found in Manipur Central district, and the remaining 626 Muslims comprising about 0.9 per cent of the total Muslim population have been unevenly distri-

buted in the remaining four hilly districts of Manipur North, Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East. The next highest Muslim population is found in Manipur North district with 374 persons followed by Manipur South district with 186, Manipur West district with 36 and Manipur East district with 30. In Manipur West district there is no Muslim female population.

Sikhism

As in the case of the Muslims, the concentration of the Sikh population is found in Manipur Central district only. The Sikhs found in Manipur are mostly business community. Out of the total Sikh population of 1028 persons, 891 persons comprising more than 86 per cent of the total Sikh population are found in Manipur Central district. The distribution of the remaining Sikh population in the remaining four districts, though highly negligible, is as follows: Manipur North: 54, Manipur West: 18, Manipur South: 33, and Manipur East: 32.

Jainism

Like the Sikhs, the Jain community found in Manipur is chiefly a business community. The Jains of Manipur are mostly Marwaris who are confined in the commercial hub of Imphal city. Out of 1408 Jains found in Manipur, 1369 or 97.23 per cent of the total Jain population is found in Manipur Central district. The distribution of the Jains in the remaining districts is almost negligible. It may however be interesting to note that in Manipur North district, there are 5 Jain females only, and in Manipur West district 4 Jain males only.

Buddhism

This is another important religion of the world whose following in Manipur is very unsatisfactory. However, the distribution of the Buddhists in the districts is a bit balanced. There are 495 Buddhists in Manipur. The largest Buddhist population (221 persons) is found in Manipur North district followed by Manipur

Central district (158 persons), Manipur South district (88 persons), Manipur East district (24 persons) and Manipur West district (4 males).

Rural-Urban Distribution of Religions

We have seen already the distribution of religions in the state as well as in the districts. Let us now examine the distribution of the religions in the rural and urban areas of Manipur. In Table VII.4 the distribution of the religions in the rural and urban areas of the State has been shown, whereas in Table VII.5 the distribution of the religions in both the rural and urban areas in the districts has been shown.

Table VII.4

<i>Name of religion</i>	<i>Percentage to total</i>	
	<i>Rural population</i>	<i>Urban population</i>
1	2	3
Hinduism	55.08	84.57
Christianity	28.69	8.51
Islam	7.44	1.20
Sikhism	0.04	0.44
Buddhism	0.05	0.03
Jainism	0.04	0.70
Other religions and Persuasions	8.24	4.55
Religion not stated	0.41	..

It will be seen from tables VII. 4 & VII. 5 that proportion of the Hindus in both the rural and urban areas of the State is highest. Christianity comes next and Islam third. The proportion of the Hindu population in the urban area is higher than in the rural area, whereas in the case of the Christian and Muslim populations, the proportions of their rural population is higher than their urban proportions. In the case of the districts, there is no urban unit in the districts of Manipur North, Manipur West and Manipur East. Manipur Central and Manipur South districts have urban units. Except Manipur

Table VII.5

Name of religion	Percentage to total Rural Urban population of the district											
	Manipur North		Manipur East		Manipur South		Manipur Central		Manipur East			
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
Hinduism	19.20	..	4.91	..	4.18	21.10	76.91	88.73	3.33	..		
Islam	0.36	..	0.08	..	0.20	0.13	10.89	1.27	0.05	..		
Christianity	56.13	..	77.61	..	90.18	78.14	5.70	3.95	92.00	..		
Sikhism	0.05	..	0.04	..	..	0.38	0.05	0.44	0.05	..		
Buddhism	0.21	..	0.01	..	0.10	..	0.02	0.03	0.04	..		
Jainism	0.01	..	0.01	..	N	0.04	0.06	0.74	0.04	..		
Other religions and persuasions	22.92	..	17.30	..	4.42	0.21	6.11	4.83	4.46	..		
Religion not stated	1.12	..	0.04	..	1.10	..	0.26	..	0.03	..		

Central, the other four districts have alarmingly high proportion of Christian population. In Manipur South and Manipur Central districts, the proportion of Hindu population is higher in urban area than in rural area, whereas the proportion of Christian and Muslim populations in the said two districts is lower in urban area than in rural area. The highest proportion of Hindu population is found in the urban area of Manipur Central district with 88.73 per cent and the lowest proportion in the rural area of Manipur East with 3.33 per cent. As for the Muslim population, the highest proportion is found in the rural area of Manipur Central district with 10.89 per cent and the lowest in the rural area of Manipur East with 0.05 per cent. Christianity has the lowest proportion in the urban area of Manipur Central with 3.95 and the highest (92 per cent) in Manipur East district which is not having urban area. The major concentration of the Sikhs and Jains is found in the urban areas of Manipur Central and Manipur South districts. There is no Sikh population in the rural area of Manipur South and no Buddhists in the urban area of Manipur South. The population under 'Other religions and persuasions' is highest in Manipur North and Manipur West districts representing almost one-fifth of the total population of each district. There is no urban population under 'Religion not stated'.

Religious Composition in the Towns

Now that we have known the distribution of the religious communities in both the rural and urban areas in the state, it will be worthwhile to examine the distribution of the population under different religions in the towns of Manipur. There are eight urban units in Manipur. One, namely Churachandpur, in Manipur South district and the remaining seven in Manipur Central district. The proportions of religious communities in the urban areas of Manipur South district which have been given already hold good for Churachandpur town as this is the only town in the district. In the remaining urban units, Imphal which is the only city in the State deserves our attention. Out of the total population of 100,366 persons of Imphal, 86,486 persons representing 86.17 per cent of the total are Hindus. Those under

'Other religions and persuasions' come second with 5,773 persons only comprising 5.75 per cent of the total Urban population of the city. The third and fourth positions go to Christians (5.01%) and Muslims (1.47%) respectively. Though small in number, the Jain population is heavily concentrated in Imphal. Out of the total Jain population of 1,408 persons in Manipur State, 986 persons representing 0.98 per cent of the population of Imphal are found in the city. Besides Imphal and Churachandpur, separate population figures under each religions are not available for the remaining six towns. These six towns namely Kakching, Thoubal, Moirang, Bishenpur, Nambol and Lamalai are located in the Hindu locality of Manipur Central district and the religious composition of the population in these six towns taken together is such that the proportion of the Hindus is 96 per cent. The total population in these six towns is 32,420 persons consisting of 31,335 Hindus, 220 Muslims, 210 Christians, 11 Sikhs and 644 persons under 'Other religions and persuasions'. There is no Buddhist and Jain population in these six towns.

Population Trend of Three Major Religions during the past decades

In the preceding paragraphs, we have described more or less in detail the population under each religion in Manipur as well as in its districts and the rural and urban areas. Before concluding this chapter it will be of interest to describe a little further the trends of population growth of three major religions namely Hinduism, Christianity and Islam in the past three censuses, of 1951, 1961 and 1971. A period of thirty years, though short in the cultural history of any people, is good enough as a year-stick for measuring the trends of growth of population of any religious following. In Table VII.6 the population of the Hindus in Manipur in 1951, 1961 and 1971 and its percentages to the total population have been shown.

Table VII.6

<i>Year</i>		<i>Total Hindu population</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1951		347,325	60.13
1961		481,112	61.68
1971		632,597	58.97

In 1951 the proportion of the Hindus to the total population in the State was 60.13 per cent. In 1961 the proportion has increased to 61.68 per cent. It may also be noted that the percentage increase of total population from 1951 to 1961 was 35.04 whereas the percentage increase of total Hindu population from 1951 to 1961 was 38.52. At the 1971 Census, the proportion of the Hindu population to the total population has decreased. The percentage of the Hindu population to the total population in 1971 was 58.97 only. The percentage increase of total Hindu population from 1961 to 1971 was only 31.49 which is lower than the growth rate of the total population of the State for the said period which stands at 37.53 per cent. Let us now examine the position of the Christians.

Table VII.7

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Christian population</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1951	68,394	11.84
1961	152,043	19.49
1971	279,243	26.03

Compared with other religions, the growth rate of the Christians in Manipur is alarming. The Christian population in 1961 was more than double of what it was in 1951. The growth rate of Christian population from 1951 to 1961 was a little over 122 per cent. The growth of Christian population from 1961 to 1971 is also not very bad. The increase of Christian population from 1961 to 1971 was 83.66 per cent. The high growth rate of Christian population which is much higher than the decadal growth-rate of the population of the state indicates that an active process of conversion into Christianity is going on in the state. In 1951 the Christian population comprised 11.84 per cent of the total population while in 1961 the percentage rose to 19.49 and in 1971 to 26.03.

The growth of Muslim population in Manipur over the last two decades may be seen from the following table.

Table VII.8

<i>Year</i>							<i>Total Muslim population</i>	<i>Percentage to total population</i>
1951	.	.	.	.	.	.	37,197	6.44
1961	.	.	.	.	.	.	48,588	6.23
1971	.	.	.	.	.	.	70,969	6.61

It will be seen from the above that the percentage of Muslim population to the total population in the state is more or less uniform in the last three censuses. In 1951 the Muslim population comprised 6.44 per cent of the total population. Till 1971 the proportion of Muslim population to the total population is less than seven per cent. The decadal growth rate of the Muslims from 1951 to 1961 was 30.6 per cent which is lower than that of the State population (35.04%). In the next decade, that is in 1971 the growth rate of Muslim population was 46 per cent.

We have now seen that Hinduism is the predominant religion in the state and the concentration of the Hindu population is found in the plain area of the State, that is in the Manipur Central district. In the remaining districts Christian population dominates though it comprises 26.03 per cent of the total population of the state. The Muslims representing a distant third major religion in the state are found mostly in the Manipur Central district. Other religions like Sikhism, Jainism and Buddhism do not have a large number of followers in the state. A large proportion of the Sikhs and Jains who are mostly businessmen in Manipur is found in the urban areas of the state.

Chapter VIII

CASTES AND TRIBES SCHEDULED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION

Most of us have heard of the terms "Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes." Who are the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and how a Caste or a Tribe becomes scheduled? Those who are not very much familiar with these terms would like to ask the above question.

If you refer to Articles 341 and 342 of the Indian Constitution you will find that the "President of India may by public notification specify such castes and tribes which shall for the purposes of the Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each state". The lists of these castes and tribes are made out for each State/Union Territory. In view of the fact that these castes and tribes have long been neglected, it has been laid down under the Directive Principles of state policy in Part 4 of the Constitution under Article 46, that "the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation."

In 1950 the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were notified. Consequent on the reorganisation of the Indian States, the said list were further modified by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956. According to this Order, 29 Scheduled Tribes and 7 Scheduled Castes have been listed in Manipur.

Who are the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

Many of us who are familiar with the Hindu social institution know that caste system occupies a special place in Hindu society. A study of Hindu society is incomplete without reference to the castes and caste-organisation. Though at present

there are hundreds of sub-castes, these are offshoots of the four major castes, namely Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaisya and Sudra. The first three castes are considered higher castes though Brahmin ranks first. A study of the Indian caste system will reveal that it was a way of life. Every person was fettered by rules and regulations of his caste. A man from the higher caste did not accept cooked food from one from a lower caste. The concept of pollution created a social distance between the members of the castes. The concept of pollution was so great that a high-caste man became polluted if he touched the shadow of a low-caste man. Thus in course of time, many a social privilege went to the higher castes and disabilities went to the lower castes. The 'Untouchables' became another name of the lower castes, and in 1931 Census the then Census Commissioner of India Dr. J. H. Hutton called these lower castes as the "Depressed Classes". These "Depressed Classes" in the provinces of Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, Central Provinces and Barar, Madras, Orissa, Punjab and United Provinces were classified as Scheduled Castes by the British Government under the Government of India (Scheduled Caste) order 1936. Social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of historical custom of untouchability was the major ground for inclusion of the depressed castes in the list of Scheduled Castes. The terms 'Scheduled Castes' and 'Backward Tribes' appeared for the first time in the Government of India Act 1935. Like the castes, India is the home of many tribal communities many of whom remained considerably backward because of geographical isolation, pursuit of primitive mode of living and alienation from the social mainstream. As per Thirteenth Schedule to the Government of India (Provincial Legislative Assemblies) Order 1936, certain tribes were specified as backward. The specification of the tribes as "Scheduled Tribes" was made for the first time in the Indian Constitution.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Manipur

Before the advent of Hinduism in Manipur about three hundred years ago, there was no caste system in this state. The Brahmin immigrants from the neighbouring States like Bengal, Assam etc. became the Brahmin caste while the native Hindu

proselytes became the Kshatriya caste. The general Manipuri Hindu population presents a dual caste organisation comprising the Brahmin and Kshatriya castes. The non-converts who professed the traditional religions were classified either as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution. The total population of Scheduled Castes in Manipur at the 1971 Census was 16,376 persons comprising 1.53 per cent of the total population of the State. This figure is much behind the corresponding figure of 14.60 per cent for the country as a whole. The total number of Scheduled Tribes on the other hand was 334,466 at the 1971 Census and the proportion to the total population is 31.18 per cent which is several times higher than the corresponding percentage of 6.94 for the country as a whole.

There is a slow decline in the proportions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population to the total population from 1961 to 1971. At the 1961 Census, the Scheduled Castes represented 1.71 per cent of the total population as against 1.53 in 1971. Similarly, the proportion of Scheduled Tribes population to the total population was 31.93 per cent in 1961 as against 31.18 per cent in 1971. In Table VIII.1 a comparative picture of Scheduled Castes and Tribes of Manipur with that of India is given.

Table VIII.1

<i>Country/State</i>	<i>Percentage of S.C. to total population</i>		<i>Percentage of S.T. to total population</i>	
	1961	1971	1961	1971
INDIA	14.67	14.60	6.87	6.94
Manipur	1.71	1.53	31.93	31.18

In the case of the country, the percentage of Scheduled Tribes has increased by 0.7 from 1961 to 1971 and that of the Scheduled Castes decreased by 0.7 per cent, in the case of Manipur the percentage has diminished for both S.C. and S.T. This is because the growth rate of S.C. and S.T. population is lower than that of the State as a whole. Let us now examine the decadal growth rate of the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Manipur.

While the growth rate of the total population of the State stands at 37.53, the growth-rates of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Manipur are 22.43 and 34.30 per cents respectively. The population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the two censuses of 1961 and 1971, the net increase of population and the growth rates have been furnished in a tabular form below.

<i>S.C./S.T.</i>	1961	1971	<i>Net increase</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Scheduled Castes . . .	13,376	16,376	3,000	22.43
Scheduled Tribes . . .	249,049	334,466	85,417	34.30

Scheduled Castes in the Districts

Comprising only 1.53 per cent of the total population, the Scheduled Castes in a minor community in the state. The distribution of the scheduled castes in the districts of Manipur is not uniform. Their population is heavily concentrated in Manipur Central district. Out of the total population of 16,376, 15,873 persons are found in Manipur Central district only and its proportion to the total district population is 2.08 per cent. In other districts the distribution is as low as 27 persons only in Manipur East district. The distribution of the Scheduled Castes population in the five districts of Manipur is furnished below.

<i>District</i>	<i>S.C. Population</i>	<i>Percentage to district population</i>
Manipur Central . . .	15,873	2.08
Manipur South . . .	314	0.32
Manipur North . . .	118	0.11
Manipur West . . .	44	0.10
Manipur East . . .	27	0.04

Scheduled Tribes in the Districts

We have noticed that the Scheduled Castes are concentrated in Manipur Central district, and the distribution of population in the other four districts is negligible. Opposite is the case as

regards distribution of the Scheduled Tribes in the district. In Manipur Central district, the distribution of the Scheduled Tribes is the minimum. There are 55,854 persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in Manipur Central district and they represent only 7.32 per cent of the total district population. In the remaining four districts which are topographically hilly, the Scheduled Tribes population predominates. In Manipur North district out of 104,175 persons, 82,706 are Scheduled Tribes and they represent 79.39 per cent of the total district population. In Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East districts, the proportion of the Scheduled Tribes to the total district population is more than 90 per cent. The proportions of the Scheduled Tribes to the total population of the districts have been furnished below.

<i>District</i>	<i>Total population</i>	<i>S.T. population</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Manipur North	104,175	82,706	79.39
Manipur West	44,975	43,996	97.82
Manipur South	98,114	91,984	93.75
Manipur Central	763,260	55,854	7.32
Manipur East	62,229	59,926	96.30

The highest proportion of Scheduled Tribes population is found in Manipur West district followed by Manipur East district. The third highest position goes to Manipur South district. In absolute number, Manipur South district has the highest number of scheduled tribes population followed by Manipur North, Manipur East, Manipur Central and Manipur West in that order. Among the district Manipur West contains the lowest Scheduled Tribes population.

Sex Ratio of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

The sex-ratio of the State as a whole is 980 females per 1000 males. The same ratio is found in the rural as well as urban areas of the state. Do the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes maintain the same ratio in the state and in the districts?

The Scheduled Tribes have a ratio above parity at the 1971 and the 1961 censuses. At the 1971 census the ratio of the

Scheduled Tribes is 1009 females per 1000 males as against 1022 females per 1000 males in 1961. The ratios in the rural area at both the Censuses of 1961 and 1971 are 1028 and 1013 respectively. In both the Census year, the ratios in the urban area are below parity.

As regards the Scheduled Castes, in both the censuses the ratios are below parity for the state as well as for the rural and urban areas. The ratios of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes at the 1961 and 1971 censuses are furnished in a tabular form below.

<i>Year</i>						<i>General population</i>	<i>Scheduled castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>
1						2	3	4
1961	Total	.	.	.	.	1,015	942	1,022
	Rural	.	.	.	.	1,018	948	1,028
	Urban	.	.	.	.	935	564	721
1971	Total	.	.	.	.	980	914	1,009
	Rural	.	.	.	.	980	931	1,013
	Urban	.	.	.	.	980	539	931

Rural-Urban distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

We have already seen that the concentration of urban areas of Manipur is found in Manipur Central district which is predominantly a plain area. In Manipur South district there is only one town viz. Churachandpur. In the remaining three districts which are predominantly hilly and the ancestral home of the Scheduled Tribes, there is no urban area. It is therefore natural that the majority of the Scheduled Tribes live in the rural areas of Manipur. What about the Scheduled Castes? How many of them in the rural areas and how many in the urban areas?

Out of 16,376 Scheduled Castes population 15,802 live in the rural areas and only 574 live in the urban areas. Similarly 319,516 out of a Scheduled Tribes population of 334,466 in the state live in the rural areas. Thus, more than 95 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes population live in the rural areas of the state. The proportions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the rural and urban areas to the total

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population have been furnished in Table VIII. 2.

Table VIII.2

<i>State\District</i>	<i>Percentage of Rural/ Urban S.C. popula- tion to total S.C. population</i>		<i>Percentage of Rural/ Urban S.T. population to total S.T. popula- tion</i>	
	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
1	2	3	4	5
MANIPUR	96.49	3.51	95.53	4.47
Manipur North . . .	100.00	..	100.00	..
Manipur West . . .	100.00	..	100.00	..
Manipur South . . .	59.55	40.45	92.65	7.35
Manipur Central . . .	97.18	2.82	85.34	14.66

Literacy Rates among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

The performance of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes communities in the field of Literacy is a little behind that of the general population. The literacy rate for the total population of the State as a whole is 32.91 while the literacy rates for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are 26.44 and 28.71 per cent respectively. It has been noticed that the performance of the Scheduled Tribes is a little better than that of the Scheduled Castes. If we examine their performance during the decade, we find that in 1961, 27.25 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population were literate while the corresponding percentage for Scheduled Castes was 22.37. Hence, the decadal growth rate of literacy percentage (1961-1971) is higher in the case of the Scheduled Castes than that of the Scheduled Tribes. The proportion of literates among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the State as well as in the districts have been furnished in the following table.

Table VIII.3

<i>State/District</i>	<i>SCHEDULED CASTES</i>		<i>SCHEDULED TRIBES</i>	
	<i>Total Literates</i>	<i>Percentage of Literate to total S.C. population in State/District</i>	<i>Total Literates of literate</i>	<i>Percentage to total S.T. population in State/District</i>
1	2	3	4	5
MANIPUR	4,330	26.44	96,020	28.71
Manipur North . . .	65	55.08	17,949	21.70
Manipur West . . .	38	86.36	9,026	20.52
Manipur South . . .	82	26.11	31,827	34.60
Manipur Central . . .	4,133	26.04	17,439	31.22
Manipur East	12	44.44	19,779	33.01

We have noticed more or less in detail the performance of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the field of literacy. The proportions of the literate Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are a little lower than that of the general population in the State. In Table VIII.4 a brief comparison of the literate general population with the literate S.C. and S.T. population in 1961 and 1971 is given.

Table VIII.4

<i>Population</i>	<i>Literacy Rate</i>						<i>Percentage increase 1961-1971</i>		
	<i>1961</i>			<i>1971</i>					
	<i>P</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
General population	30.42	45.12	15.93	32.91	46.04	19.53	8.19	2.04	22.60
Scheduled Castes population	22.37	31.96	12.19	26.44	36.02	15.96	18.19	12.80	30.93
Scheduled Tribes Population	27.25	37.03	17.67	28.71	38.64	18.87	5.36	4.35	7.79

The population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in Manipur under each Caste and Tribe at the 1971 Census has been furnished in Appendix I and Appendix II respectively.

APPENDIX I

Population of the Scheduled Castes in Manipur, 1971

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Scheduled Caste</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Dhupi or Dhobi	262	180	82
2.	Lois	11,303	5,730	5,573
3.	Muchi or Ravidas	304	239	65
4.	Mansudra	2,300	1,170	1,130
5.	Patni	1,504	850	654
6.	Sutradhar	28	15	13
7.	Yaithibi	669	366	303
8.	(unspecified)	6	6	..

APPENDIX II

Population of the Scheduled Tribes in Manipur, 1971

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Scheduled Tribe</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Aimol	836	403	433
2.	Anal	6,670	3,291	3,379
3.	Angami	70	56	14
4.	Chiru	2,785	1,366	1,419
5.	Chothe	1,905	850	1,055
6.	Gangte	6,307	3,124	3,183
7.	Hmar	23,312	11,807	11,505
8.	Kabui	40,257	19,572	20,685
9.	Kacha-Naga	13,026	6,253	6,773
10.	Koirao	1,620	856	764
11.	Koireng	458	228	230
12.	Kom	6,550	2,971	3,579
13.	Lamgang	2,622	1,256	1,366
14.	Any Mizo	7,483	3,750	3,733

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Scheduled Tribe</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1	2	3	4	5
15.	Maram	4,539	2,409	2,130
16.	Maring	9,825	4,903	4,922
17.	Mao	33,379	16,032	17,347
18.	Mansang	930	438	492
19.	Moyon	1,360	623	737
20.	Paite	24,755	12,561	12,194
21.	Purum	..	..	..
22.	Ralte	154	75	79
23.	Sema	3	2	1
24.	Simte	4,177	2,033	2,144
25.	Tangkhul	57,851	28,635	29,216
26.	Thadou	59,955	30,572	29,383
27.	Vaiphei	12,347	6,209	6,138
28.	Sahte	3	1	2
29.	Zou	10,060	4,987	5,073
30.	(Unspecified)	1,227	1,227	..

NOTE : Purum which had population in 1961 has no population in 1971.
 Sahte which had no population in 1961 has population in 1971.

Chapter IX

OUR MAIN ACTIVITY

When we look around us we find many working in the offices shops, factories, etc. We also find the womenfolk engaged in household works like cooking, washing clothes, looking after the children, and the boys and girls attending the schools and colleges, and children playing at home or in the neighbourhood. Thus, everyone of us is doing something which is economically active or otherwise. Considering the nature of the works in which all of us are engaged, we may classify our population into two broad groups, viz. workers and non-workers. There is no standardised definition of the term "economically active person". It varies from country to country and even from census to census in the same country. In our country, for instance, the definition of "economically active person" or "worker" differs from census to census. In 1951 the concept of dependency was adopted thereby women and elderly children who are economically active in agriculture, traditional cottage industries and family enterprises without wages in cash or kind were treated as non-workers. In 1961, on the other hand, a person was reckoned as a worker or an economically active person even if he put in only an hour's work a day during the major part of the working season. In the case of regular employment in any trade or profession, a person was treated as a worker if he was employed for a single day in a fortnight. Full-time students, whole-time housewives, beggars, pensioners etc. were regarded as non-workers.

In 1971 Census, the definition of "worker" became a bit rigid. The main activity of a person was ascertained accordingly as he spent his time basically as worker producing goods and services or as a non-worker. A worker is defined as "a person whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental activity. Work involves not only actual work but effective supervision and direction of work". In order to ascertain proper answer, every person was asked what his

main activity was, that is, how he engaged himself mostly. At the 1971 Census, it was closely examined how a person spent the major portion of **his time**. There was little difficulty in classifying those working in the offices and factories regularly as workers. But what about those housewives who do cooking the household meal, washing clothes of the family, doing some knitting and sewing work for their husbands and children? Shall we treat them as workers? Definitely not. Their full-time activity was that of a housewife. At the 1971 Census, such women were treated as non-workers. Similarly there are students whose main activity is to study and attend schools and colleges. But during vacation or during cultivating season they may help their parents for about one hour or so, if not daily. They too are treated as non-workers at the 1971 Census. On the other hand, if a person is primarily engaged in some economic activity but at the same time does also attend to some household chores or attends a night school etc. he or she is treated as a worker. Thus, we have noticed that many of the persons, both men and women, who were treated as workers at the 1961 Census have been treated as non-workers at the 1971 Census. Naturally the proportion of the working population to the total population has decreased from 1961 to 1971. It was 45.89 per cent as against 34.57 per cent in 1971. The disparity in the proportions of working population does not mean that those workers in 1961 have become unemployed in 1971. The fall in the proportion is mainly due to difference in the definitions of "worker" adopted in both the Censuses.

Division of Workers

At the 1971 Census, the workers have been classified into nine categories according to the type of work in which a person is mainly engaged. In the individual slip, the data relating to the nature of work, place of work, the name of establishment, nature of industry, trade or profession and a brief description of work and class of workers have been collected. With the help of these basic data, the workers have been classified into nine categories as named below.

Category I	• •	Cultivator
Category II	• •	Agricultural Labourer
Category III	• •	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantation Orchards and allied activities.
Category IV	• •	Mining and Quarrying
Category V	• •	(a) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs at Household Industry (b) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industry
Category VI	• •	Construction
Category VII	• •	Trade and Commerce
Category VIII	• •	Transport, Storage and Communications
Category IX	• •	Other Services

After classifying the population into the above nine categories there are also persons who cannot be classified into any of them. For example full-time students. Such persons have been grouped under "Non-Workers". The non-workers have been classified into seven categories viz: (i) persons engaged in household duties, (ii) students, (iii) retired persons or rentiers, (iv) dependents, (v) beggars, (vi) convicts in jails and inmates of a penal, mental or charitable institutions and (vii) other non-workers. Under this last category will include a person irrespective of age and whether educated or not, if he reports that he is not engaged in any other activity but is seeking work.

Workers under Different Categories

Now you have come to know that at the 1971 Census the working population has been divided into nine broad categories. You may like to know how many persons are under each category and their proportions to the total working population. In Table IX.1 the distribution of the working population under each category has been shown.

Table IX·1

Category	Number of workers			Percentage of working persons to total workers
	Males	Females	Persons	
1		3	4	5
All categories	245,435	125,428	370,863	100·00
Category I	167,038	81,442	248,480	67·00
Category II	8,662	4,863	13,525	3·65
Category III	2,045	281	2,326	0·63
Category IV	79	11	90	Negligible
Category Va	5,882	28,741	34,623	9·34
Category Vb	4,570	1,541	6,111	1·65
Category VI	4,538	89	4,627	1·25
Category VII	7,669	5,480	13,149	3·55
Category VIII	3,989	55	4,044	1·09
Category IX	40,963	2,925	43,888	11·84
Category X (non-workers)	296,240	405,650	701,890	65·43

We have seen from the above that the proportion of the total workers to the total population of the state is 34.57 per cent only and a large majority of the population (65.43 per cent) are non-workers. Besides, the working population is not evenly distributed among the nine categories mentioned above. The working population is concentrated under Category I (Cultivators) and it is almost nil under Category IV (Mining and Quarrying). 67 per cent of the workers are cultivators. The next highest number of workers (11.84 per cent) is found under Category IX (Other Services).

The Non-Workers

In view of the high proportion of the population which is not economically active, the state is bound to have a heavy burden to feed the non-workers. One of the major reasons for this high proportion of non-workers is the broad-based population structure of the state. More than 40 per cent of the population of the state are under the age-group 0.14 years. We have mentioned earlier the seven categories of non-workers. The final tabulation of data on non-workers has not yet been completed. Therefore, we are unable to tell you now how many are students, how many

are beggars, how many are convicts in jails or inmates of penal, mental or charitable institutions etc.

Workers and Non-workers in Rural and Urban Areas

Many of us know the differences between a village and a town. In the villages, cultivation is generally the main occupation of the villagers while in the towns, the people do varieties of works like working in the office, factories or selling goods in shops etc. Therefore, the types of occupation in the rural and urban areas generally differ. Besides, in the urban areas, due to either lack of employment or continuation of studies at schools and colleges many usually become economically active at a later stage. Whereas in the rural areas many cut short at their studies due to many reasons and they, mostly boys, become actively engaged in the agricultural occupation of their parents. It is therefore natural for a less industrialised state like Manipur to have higher proportion of workers in rural areas than in urban areas. In Table IX.2 the proportions of workers and non-workers in the rural and urban areas for both males and females have been given.

It will be seen from Table IX.2 that the proportion of workers in the rural area to the total rural population is 35.79 per cent whereas the corresponding proportion in the urban area is only 26.56 per cent. The position is true for both males and females also. The proportion of rural male workers to total rural population is 46.42 per cent whereas the proportion of urban workers to the total urban population is only 38.01 per cent. As for the females, the proportions for rural and urban areas are 24.95 per cent and 14.87 per cent respectively. It is therefore natural to have higher proportions of non-workers in the urban area than in the rural areas for both males and females. In the rural area 64.21 per cent of the population are non-workers and in urban areas the corresponding percentage is 73.44. As regards males, 53.58 per cent in rural areas and 61.99 per cent in urban areas are non-workers. The corresponding figures for female non-workers in the rural and urban areas are 75.05 per cent and 85.13 per cent respectively.

Table IX-2

Population	Persons Males Females	1	2	3	Number		Percentage of workers/no. workers to total population			
					Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
					3	4	5	6	7	8
Total Population					1,072,753	931,261	141,492	100·00	100·00	100·00
	P	·	·	·	541,675	470,231	71,444	100·00	100·00	100·00
	M	·	·	·	531,078	461,030	70,048	100·00	100·00	100·00
	F	·	·	·	370,863	333,288	37,575	34·57	35·79	26·56
Total Workers					245,435	218,277	27,158	45·31	46·42	38·01
	P	·	·	·	125,428	115,011	10,417	23·62	24·95	14·87
	M	·	·	·	701,890	597,973	103,917	65·43	64·21	73·44
	F	·	·	·	296,240	251,954	44,286	54·59	53·58	61·99
Total Non-Workers					405,650	346,019	59,631	76·38	75·05	85·13

Distribution of Workers and Non-workers in the Districts

We have seen how many are workers and non-workers in our State. We may like to know the position in the districts as well. It is quite likely that the proportions of workers in all the districts may not be uniform. In the following table, the proportions of the workers and the non-workers in all the districts have been furnished.

Table IX.3

<i>State District</i>	<i>Population</i>			<i>Percentage of work- ers/non-workers to total population</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Workers</i>	<i>Non- workers</i>	<i>Workers</i>	<i>Non- workers</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
MANIPUR	1,072,753	370,863	701,890	34.57	65.43
Manipur North	104,175	52,312	51,863	50.22	49.78
Manipur West	44,975	22,163	22,812	49.28	50.72
Manipur South	98,114	36,354	61,760	37.05	62.95
Manipur Central	763,260	229,759	533,501	30.10	69.90
Manipur East	62,229	30,275	31,954	48.65	51.35

It will be seen from the above table that Manipur North district has the highest proportion of working population. With 50.22 per cent of the district population being workers, Manipur North is the only district in the state where the proportion of workers is more than the proportion of non-workers. In all the remaining four districts, the proportions of workers are less than the proportions of non-workers. Second and third highest proportions of workers are recorded in Manipur West and Manipur East districts with 49.28 and 48.65 per cent respectively. The lowest proportion of workers is found in Manipur Central district where only 30.10 per cent of the population are workers. The reverse is the position as regards non-workers. That is, the district with lowest proportion of workers has the highest proportion of non-workers and the district with the highest proportion of workers has the lowest proportion of non-workers, and so on.

From the above figures one is tempted to ask whether the tribal population offers more workers than non-tribal population. Because, Manipur Central with the lowest proportion of workers is the only district where the population is predominantly non-tribal. In all the other four districts tribal population predominates. There is ample room for the scholars to probe into this interesting phenomenon, though on our part we leave the question unanswered.

Workers in Districts under Different Categories

It may be of great interest to know the proportions of workers under each category of work to the total working population in each district. It will be seen from Table IX.4 that the highest proportion of workers is found under Category I viz. Cultivators in all the districts. As regards other categories, the workers are found in varying proportions in all the districts.

I: Cultivators

We have seen from Table IX.4 that 67 per cent of the workers in the state are cultivators. The proportion of workers under this category is highest in all the districts. Among the districts, the highest proportion of workers under this category is found in Manipur West district with 89.91 per cent followed by Manipur North district with 89.28 per cent. In Manipur East and Manipur South districts the proportions are 85.41 and 85.30 per cent respectively. The lowest proportion is found in Manipur Central district with 54.40 per cent only. This lowest proportion is much above that of all-India figure (43.36 per cent).

II: Agricultural Labourers

Under this second category we do not find satisfactory proportion of workers. Though both the categories are agricultural based occupations, the low proportion under the second category means that many of our agriculturists are engaged in cultivation by themselves or by supervision or direction in their own capacity as owners or lessees of land from Govt. or as tenants of land

Table IX-4

Workers and Percentages to total workers in each category

State/District	Total Workers											
	I	II	III	IV	Va	Vb	VI	VII	VIII	IX		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
MANIPUR	370,863	248,480	13,525	2,326	90	34,623	6,111	4,627	13,149	4,044	43,888	
	67.00	3.65	0.63	N	9.34	1.65	1.25	3.55		1.09	11.84	
Manipur North	52,312	46,704	167	37	..	353	37	111	475	96	4,332	
	89.28	0.32	0.07			0.68	0.07	0.21	0.91	0.18	8.28	
Manipur West	22,163	19,926	21	18	..	100	10	83	44	20	1,941	
	89.91	0.09	0.08			0.45	0.05	0.37	0.20	0.09	8.76	
Manipur South	36,354	31,007	661	67	2	371	98	150	318	89	3,591	
	85.30	1.82	0.18	N	1.02	0.27	0.41	0.87		0.25	9.88	
Manipur Central	229,759	124,985	12,568	2,181	85	33,758	5,932	4,120	12,203	3,806	30,121	
	54.40	5.47	0.95	0.04	14.69	2.58	1.79	5.31		1.66	13.11	
Manipur East	30,275	25,858	108	23	3	41	34	163	109	33	3,903	
	85.41	0.36	0.08	0.01	0.13	0.11	0.54	0.36		0.11	12.89	

held from private persons or institutions for payment of money, kind or share. Therefore, the population of agricultural labourers or persons who work in other person's land for wages in money, kind or share is very small. The highest percentage under this category of work is found in Manipur Central district with 5.47 only. Second highest percentage (1.82) is found in Manipur South district with only 661 workers under the category. For the state as a whole the proportion is 3.65 which is several times behind that of all-India (26.31 per cent).

III. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities

Under this third category the absolute number of workers in the state is only 2,326 persons only representing 0.63 per cent of the total working population. The bulk of the workers under this category (2,181 persons) is found in Manipur Central district representing 0.95 per cent which is the highest proportion among the districts. The second highest absolute number of workers (67 persons) is recorded in Manipur South district and third position goes to Manipur North district with 37 persons.

IV: Mining and Quarrying

Practically the working population under this category is negligible in the state. There are 90 persons under this category in the state and majority of them (85 persons) representing 0.04 per cent is found in Manipur Central district. As for the remaining 5 workers, 2 are in Manipur South district and 3 in Manipur East district. In other districts there is no population under this category.

Va: Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs at Household Industry

There are 34,623 workers under this category in the state and they represent 9.34 per cent of the total working population. This category enjoys the third position. Second position goes to category IX which will be described later on. The bulk of the population under this category is found in Manipur Central district and their proportion to the total workers in the district is

14.69 per cent. In other districts the working population under this category is too small that the proportion is less than 2 per cent. Next to Manipur Central, the second position goes to Manipur South district with 371 workers representing 1.02 per cent and third position to Manipur North district with 353 workers or 0.68 per cent.

Vb: Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industry

Whereas the proportion under this category for the country as a whole is 5.94 per cent, it is only 1.65 per cent for Manipur with 6,111 workers only. A large majority of the workers (5,932 persons) are found in Manipur Central district and the proportion to the total workers of the district is 2.58 per cent. The second position goes to Manipur South district with 98 workers or 0.27 per cent. In the remaining districts, the proportions of workers are highly small. The low proportion of workers under this category in the state indicates the poor state of industrialisation in the state.

VI: Construction

The proportion for the state (1.25 per cent) almost tallies with that of the country (1.23 per cent). The total number of workers under this category in the state is 4,627 persons. Manipur Central district leads again other districts with 4,120 workers (1.79 per cent) distantly followed by Manipur East district with 163 workers (0.54 per cent). In absolute number (83 persons) the lowest position goes to Manipur West district whereas in proportion (0.21 per cent) the lowest position goes to Manipur North district.

VII: Trade and Commerce

The total number of workers under this category is 13,149 persons comprising 3.55 per cent of workers in the state. The proportion is a little lower than that of all-India (5.56 per cent). Under this category it is natural for Manipur Central district again to lead other districts with 12,203 workers out of the state

total of 13,149. The proportion of workers under this category in Manipur Central district is 5.31 per cent followed by Manipur North district with 475 workers or 0.91 per cent. Third position goes to Manipur South district with 318 workers or 0.87 per cent. Fourth and fifth positions go to Manipur East district and Manipur West district with 109 workers or 0.36 per cent and 44 workers or 0.20 per cent respectively.

VIII: Transport, Storage and Communications

The proportion of workers under this category is as low as 1.09 per cent in the state with only 4,044 workers. As in other categories, Manipur Central district leads again the other districts with 3,806 workers representing 1.66 per cent of the workers in the district. In other districts the population under this category is fairly small. The lowest position both in number of workers and proportion is recorded in Manipur West district with 20 workers comprising 0.09 per cent.

IX: Other Services

All types of economic activity not covered by cultivation, agricultural labour or household industry will come under this residual category. Therefore, factory workers, those working in trade or transport, all Govt. servants, municipal employees, teachers, mining workers, political or social workers, building labourers etc. etc. will all come under this category.

The total population under this category is 43,888 persons in the state representing 11.83 per cent of the total working population. In absolute number the distribution of the workers under this category is highest in Manipur Central district with 30,121 workers. In proportion also this district has the highest percentage (13.11). Manipur East district has 12.89 per cent of the working population under this category. As regards proportion of workers under this category in other districts, in Manipur South it is 9.88 per cent, in Manipur West 8.76 per cent and in Manipur North 8.28 per cent. Though Manipur North comes last regarding proportion of workers under this category, it is next to

Manipur Central with regard to the absolute number of workers (4,332 persons) under this category.

Working Population among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

In Table IX.5 we saw that the proportion of workers in the four hilly districts viz. Manipur North, Manipur West, Manipur South and Manipur East, is greater than that found in Manipur Central district. These four hilly districts are predominantly inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes. Let us now see the proportions of workers from Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes as shown in Table IX.5 below.

Table IX.5

<i>Population</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number of workers of workers</i>	<i>Percentage of workers to total population</i>	<i>Percentage of Non-workers to total population</i>
1	2	3	4	5
Total	1,072,753	370,863	34.57	65.43
Scheduled Tribes	334,466	144,791	43.29	56.71
Scheduled Castes	16,376	4,328	26.43	73.57

Whereas the proportion of workers for the state as a whole is 34.57 per cent, that of the scheduled tribes stands at 43.29 per cent. The performance of the scheduled castes is behind the state average as shown in the table. The scheduled tribes have the lowest proportion of non-workers and the Scheduled Castes have the highest proportion. Do the Castes and the Tribes follow the pattern of distribution of workers of the general population in all the nine categories of work? Let us see the position for the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes separately.

Categories of Scheduled Caste Workers

The distribution of the Scheduled Caste workers under the nine categories of work has been shown in Table IX. 6. It will be found that the out of 4,328 workers, 2,935 or 67.81 per cent are found under Category I viz. Cultivators.

Table IX.6

<i>Name of Category</i>							<i>Number of S.C. Workers</i>	<i>Percentage to total S.C. Workers</i>
							2	3
Total Workers	.	.	.	.	.	.	4,328	100.00
I: Cultivators	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,935	67.81
II: Agricultural Labourers	.	.	.	.	.	.	464	10.72
III: Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	.	.	.	.	.	.	24	0.55
IV: Mining and Quarrying	.	.	.	.	.	.	..	..
Va: Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs at Household Industry	.	.	.	.	.	.	64	1.48
Vb: Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs Other than Household Industry	.	.	.	.	.	.	108	2.50
VI: Construction	.	.	.	.	.	.	16	0.37
VII: Trade and Commerce	.	.	.	.	.	.	65	1.50
VIII: Transport, Storage and Communications	.	.	.	.	.	.	48	1.11
IX: Other Services	.	.	.	.	.	.	604	13.96

Next to Category I comes Category IX (Other services) with 13.96 per cent. Third position goes to Category II (Agricultural Labourers) with 464 workers or 10.72 per cent. The proportions of workers in other categories are very small. There is no worker under Category IV (Mining and Quarrying).

Categories of Scheduled Tribe Workers

In Table IX.7 the distribution of Scheduled Tribe workers under each category of work has been shown. It will be seen that as in the case of the Scheduled Castes or of the general population, the proportion of workers under Category I viz. Cultivators is highest of all.

Table IX.7

<i>Name of Category</i>	<i>No. of S.T. Workers</i>	<i>Percentage to total S.T. Workers</i>
1	2	3
Total Workers	144,791	100.00
I : Cultivators	129,728	89.60
II : Agricultural Labourers	602	0.42
III : Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plan- tations, Orchards and allied activities	163	0.11
IV : Mining and Quarrying	4	Negligible
Va : Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Re- pairs at Household Industry	982	0.68
Vb : Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Re- pairs other than Household Industry	143	0.10
VI : Construction	478	0.33
VII : Trade and Commerce	601	0.41
VIII : Transport, Storage and Communications	278	0.19
IX : Other Services	11,812	8.16

It will be seen from the above table that the working population among the Scheduled Tribes is predominantly agricultural. Almost ninety per cent of the workers are agriculturists. Less than nine per cent of the workers are engaged in "Other Services". Therefore, the distribution of the workers in the other categories of work is highly unsatisfactory.

Both workers from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concentrated in Categories I and IX. If we compare the two communities, it is found that the Scheduled Tribes are more agricultural than the Scheduled Castes. And the Scheduled Castes on the other hand are found to be more engaged than the Scheduled Tribes in "Other Services".

Chapter X

SUMMING UP

In the history of Indian Census, Manipur, in spite of its small territorial size, presents a fascinating picture. Till 1951 Census, Manipur, along with Tripura, was associated with Assam. Beginning with the 1961 Census Manipur has been treated as a separate entity like other major Indian States and Union Territories. Manipur is among the few states having a fast growth rate of population. The growth rate of Manipur (1961-1971) with 37.53 per cent is the second highest among the Indian States. But, as regards density of population Manipur is among the lowest in the country with only 48 persons per sq. km. It is very much behind the all-India figure of 177.

Till the 1961 Census Manipur was having higher sex ratio, that is the number of females was more than the number of males. In 1971 the number of females is lower than the number of males. The sex ratio stands at 980 females per 1000 males. The disparity between the sexes is not very high and the ratio may be considered favourable. As regards urbanisation, the birth of seven new towns does not bring much change because some of the towns have less than 5000 persons each. However, the decadal variation is considerable. In 1961 the proportion of urban population to total population was only 8.68 per cent while in 1971 the proportion rose to 13.19 per cent though this figure is far behind all-India figure (19.91 per cent).

Though the total population of Manipur is not greater than that of some districts of major Indian States, Manipur faces within its own boundaries the problems associated with rapid increase of population. It may be noted that almost nine-tenths of the total area of the state are covered by the hilly regions where the transport and communication facilities are far from satisfactory. The Development of the state is more or less prominent in the central valley of the state where the capital city Imphal is located. In the light of the above situation, the growth of population gives

more pressure upon the fertile central valley of the state. Traditionally the hilly regions of Manipur are the home of the scheduled tribes, and the central valley is inhabited predominantly by the Hindu population. This geographical isolation of two major groups of people, namely the Hill-people and the Plains-people vis-a-vis absence of satisfactory transport and communication facilities has done more harm than good for the overall development of the state.

In the hills the major occupation is cultivation. In the valley also agriculture is still a major occupation. However, the growth of minor industrial projects and other non-agricultural occupations are found in the valley. The availability of non-agricultural occupations is a major factor for immigration of the people from the hills to the valley. With the completion of the Loktak Project after some years there is every possibility for the birth of small-scale and medium scale industries in Manipur thereby improving the general economy of the state. What about the manpower? Do we have enough local hands to man these future industries? Our birth-rate is high enough to give a wide base of population. Young population (0-14 years) accounts for 42.50 per cent of the total population and aged population (60 years and above) accounts for another 6.06 per cent. The working age population (15-59 years) comprises 51.44 per cent of the population. Thus the dependency ratio is about one. Employment being limited and birth-rate being unlimited, young population enters working age population continuously thereby swelling the unemployed population. In actual position, the proportion of workers to the total population is 35 per cent only. How alarming it is that 65 per cent of our population are non-workers. The female population has not entered the working force to the extent their male counterpart is doing. While about 45 per cent of the male population are workers, about 24 per cent of the female population are returned as workers at the 1971 Census.

The scheduled tribes represent about 31 per cent of the total population of the state. The improvement of the scheduled tribes is the improvement of the hills of Manipur. Manipur being predominantly hilly will it not be justified to have our general

planning hill oriented? The natural resources are mostly in the hills. It is the responsibility of the state to bring the living condition of the hill people at par at least with that of general population.

Census provides the basic demographic facts required by our administrators, planners and researchers. Unfortunately many of the facts are not favourable for us. These are high birth rate, rising unemployment, lower literacy rate etc. which are responsible for the increasing poverty of the country. Our planned development with the objective of providing food, clothing, houses, schools, medical facilities etc. for the betterment of the millions is a gigantic task. In this great nation-building work, census acts as a reckoner of the achievements and unfulfilled promises.